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SUMMARY OF NEWS.

—17—

Politics of Europe.

By the arrival of the French Ship ZELIE, from Bourbon yesterday, we were glad to learn that the GEORGE THE FOURTH, which left England 1st March, and was getting over-due, had been spoken off Ceylon. She may be therefore daily expected here.

We have to intreat the indulgence of many Correspondents for postponements to which we are driven by the space occupied in exposing the shifts and garblings and slavish doctrines of JOHN BULL; but as the farther he goes, the deeper he sinks in the mire, we hope it will become less and less necessary to comment on the absurdity of positions which need only to be read in the spirit of impartial examination to refute themselves, and carry their antidote with them.

The Honourable Company's Ship ERNAAD, Captain D. Jones, is under orders for Colombo, and will sail positively on the 10th instant, to bring round His Excellency the Honourable Sir Edward Paget to this Presidency as the new Commander in Chief of Bengal, accompanied by his Family, who will arrive probably about the middle of November.

In a French Paper, L'ERROIRE, of the 14th of March, is the following paragraph, which may interest many persons in India, to whom the esteemed individual there spoken of is personally known:—

"The Baron Debassyns, recently arrived from India, has had the honour to lay before His Majesty the result of his mission. There is every reason to believe that he will replace the Count Dupuy in the Government of our Establishment in Bengal; and the Frigate L'ESPÉRANCE, at Rochefort, is named as the Vessel that is about to sail for India shortly, to convey there the new Governor, and to bring back the present one."

Austria and Russia.—The COURIER ridicules the notion of Turkey, being partitioned by Austria and Russia. The fate of Poland, he says, is not in point, because the system of Europe is changed since that foul transaction took place. It is indeed changed, and the effect of that change has been to ratify a multitude of abominable acts of the same stamp. Instead of one isolated precedent of injustice, we have a whole file, under cover of which the strong may rob the weak in all times coming. We agree with him, that the Sovereigns "know their business now," as the Turks will probably soon experience. Long practice has made them skilful in all the arts of aggrandisement; each of them has too great load of iniquities on his back to be nice about adding one to the number; and the good understanding which prevails among them is only so much the more likely to unite them firmly in a plan of spoliation. The balance of Europe, it is said, was never so well defined as since the Congress of Vienna. Well "defined" it may be, but a definition is not a guarantee. The existence of Turkey is exactly one of the subjects to which the balance of power ought to apply; and the situation in which that empire stands in relation to its two neighbours, is an excellent proof of the utter futility of the new system. We ask, if there ever was a period when Austria and Russia could proceed to dismember Turkey so perfectly secure from molestation on the part of the other states of Europe! The COURIER talks of these two powers being restrained by a "hostile array in the west." We should be glad to know where this hostile array is to be mustered. Is it in

Prussia, the humble and submission ally of Alexander, who finds her existence threatened every moment by internal convulsions? Is it in France, whose government, supported by Vendean levies, and Swiss guards, dreads the army more than the population? Is it in Britain, struggling against impending bankruptcy and national distress in all its forms? No! thanks to the Congress of Vienna, Prussia and France have their hands full with domestic discontent; Austria and Russia, though little encumbered with spoil, are otherwise much better prepared to partition Turkey, than any of their neighbours are to prevent them. Till we saw this argument, we could not believe that it ever entered into the conception of our government to interfere in the approaching contest, if it take place. But the official journalist tells us, that "the partition of Turkey, without the consent of England, is an idle dream." Sure we are, that any attempt, of England to save the Ottoman Empire from destruction by force of arms, would be an idle dream. The attempt, however, would be still more infamous than vain. When the Neapolitans, fighting in defence of their liberties, called for our assistance, we were neither able nor willing to interfere. And now broad a hint is given, that the assistance which was denied to the cause of freedom at Naples, may be given to the cause of despotism and fanaticism at Constantinople. If the Courier is faithful interpreter of the sentiments of his masters, new humiliations are preparing for England.

Lord Byron.—The property valued at 10,000*l.* per annum, which recently fell to Lady Byron, has been arbitrated by Lord Daer on behalf of her Ladyship, and by Sir Francis Burdett for Lord Byron. Of the rental in question, 6,500*l.* has been given to Lord Byron, and 3,500*l.* to Lady Byron. The award was the result of but one meeting.

Hooping Cough.—Dr. Archer, an American physician, says, relative to the cure of the hooping-cough by vaccination, "I have vaccinated six or eight patients that had the hooping-cough, and in every case it has succeeded in curing this most distressing disease. To arrest this afflicting disorder in its progress, I would recommend vaccination in the second or third week of the hooping-cough, i. e. when the symptoms of the hooping-cough are fully ascertained, then to vaccinate. Should the convulsive cough be violent, I should immediately vaccinate; being well assured that the distressing symptoms of the hooping-cough are checked by vaccine disease. The termination of the vaccine disease will be the termination of the hooping-cough."

Greek of Hydra.—The following account of a fact occurring in the dreadful war between the Greeks and Turks, which comes to us from good authority, has a melancholy interest about it:—At the breaking out of the present Greek Revolution, a Greek of Hydra, named Constantine, was seized by the Turks and sent to the gallies at Constantinople. When the late naval expedition of the Turks set forth, Constantine was terrified by threats of death, into writing a letter to his wife at Hydra, in which he entreated her, as she valued his life to attempt the execution of the only condition on which his enemies would spare him; namely, that she should set fire to the Grecian fleet. Actuated by conjugal affection, and not suspecting the genuineness of the entreaty, the wife formed a plot to accomplish the object, along with one Conomo, known to be a bad character. The reply she wrote to her husband she entrusted to a Dalmatian Captain named Milinovich; he however gave it up to the Hydriot Authorities. The affair

became public ; and the people, in their rage at such treason, put the woman to death ! Conomo and other accomplices were confined in fortress.

Ambassadors.—According to Sir Henry Wotton,—himself an Envoy,—Ambassadors are “honest men sent to be abroad for the good of his country.”—Some other of his smart sayings have been preserved. A priest at Rome once asked him, “Where was your religion to be found before Luther ?” To which the Protestant smartly replied, “Where your’s is not to be found—in the written Word of God !”

Wycherley.—Charles II. was highly offended with this celebrated dramatist, because he married, without the King’s permission, the Countess of Drogheda, a young widow, rich and beautiful, who fell into company and in love with him at Tunbridge Wells. The match, however, was otherwise not a fortunate one. The lady was a victim to the “green-eyed monster,” and was jealous of him to distraction ! “They lived in Bow-street, Covent-garden, over against the Cock ; whither, if he at any time went with friends, he was obliged to leave the windows open, that this lady might see there was no woman in company. However, she made him some amends by dying in a reasonable time.” He nevertheless passed seven years of his life in prison for debt, from which he was relieved by James II.—Eleven days—before he died, he married again, saying “he was resolved to die married, though he could not bear the thoughts of living married again.” And on his death-bed he very gravely and unnecessarily advised his young wife not to take on old man for her “second husband.”

Sir William Curtis.—It is true, as reported, that Sir William Curtis has turned Hebrew Scholar, in order that he may read the Song of Songs in the original !—The story is, that dinner being somewhat delayed, he took up the Bible to comfort him ; when the following passages—(which he says are quite enchanting)—so forcibly struck him, that he is said to have ever since been talking of little else :—“The Vines with the tender grapes give a goodly smell ; and the Voice of the Turtle is heard in the land.”—*Solomon’s Song.*

Theatrical Mistake.—A laughable blunder was made by Mrs. Gibbs, at Covent Garden Theatre lately in the part of *Miss Sterling* in the “Clandestine Marriage ;” when speaking of the conduct of Betty who had locked the door of Miss Fanny’s room and walked away with the key, Mrs. G. said, “She had locked the key and carried away the door in her pocket.”—Mrs. Davenport, as *Mrs. Heidelberg*, had previously excited a hearty laugh by substituting for the original dialogue, “I protest there’s candle coming along the gallery with a man in its hand ;” but the mistake by Mrs. Gibbs seemed so unintentional, so unpremeditated, that the effect was irresistible, and the audience celebrated the joke with three rounds of applause.

Marriage.—It has been well said, that there are three sorts of Marriage :—1. Of God’s making, when two young folks are united ;—2. Of Man’s making, when one was old and the other young ;—And 3. Of the Devil’s making, when two old folks wed, not of course for comfort, but for covetousness.

Who was Dives?—Dr. Godwin (afterwards Bishop of Hereford) preaching once at the Somerset Assizes, observed, that “though the Scriptures had not expressed plainly who Dives was, yet, by his clothes and fare, he might be bold to affirm he was at the least a Justice of Peace”—(a Clerical one most likely) “and perhaps of Oyer and Terminor too.”

The phrase “Ancient” Masters.—The phrase “Old” Masters, as applied to the standard Painters of the Continent, who flourished, from the revival of the Arts in the 14th century, up to about the time of Carlo Maratti, at the close of the 17th century has a clear, distinct, and suitable meaning ; and we cannot see why the phrase “Ancient” Masters is adopted in its stead by the British Institution Directors. It confounds the idea of modern with the idea of ancient Artists,—of the Artists since the revival of the Arts, with the Artists in the times of the Greeks. The word Ancient, as applicable to Art and Literature, has always been

exclusively used in reference to very remote times, to those of the Egyptians, Syrians, Greeks, Romans, &c. and not to recently passed centuries. It is in fact confounding terms and times. If Carlo Maratti was an “Ancient” Master in little more than 100 years ago, what was Apelles, about 2000 years since ?

Witches.—Bishop Jewel, preaching before Queen Elizabeth, lamented the great increase of witches, and concluded his sermon by a “pray God, they may never practise further than upon a subject.”—In spite of the good Bishop’s prayer, we have often thought that a certain great personage, although no conjurer, gave frequent and grievous signs of his being bewitched.—*Examiner.*

Executions at Canterbury, April 9.—A considerable sensation has been excited in this city during the last few days, in consequence of the sentence passed at the last Maidstone Assizes on nineteen unfortunate men convicted of being present at an affray with a party of the Preventive Service in a smuggling transaction, which took place at Marsh Bay, in the Isle of Thanet, in which two were wounded on each side, but none killed. A petition to the King signed by the Mayor, Aldermen, Common Council, Clergy, Gentry and other respectable inhabitants, nearly to the number of 1900, was immediately handed to Mr. Secretary Peel by the Major in person, in favor of these deluded victims ; stating the comparative innocence of these wretched men, who were by no means the primary offenders in this forbidden traffic, but labourers, unable to procure work, most of them in a state of abject poverty and hired for the occasion for a few shillings. To this no answer was received ! Four were executed on Pevensey Heath on Thursday last, and their remains brought to Canterbury the same night accompanied into the city by a procession of several hundreds of the inhabitants, singing funeral anthems, &c. in the most solemn and impressive manner. On Sunday a public funeral took place, when the procession and interment of the bodies were attended by nearly half the population of Canterbury, five or six thousand being computed to be present. Fifteen remained respite during pleasure, one of whom has since died in prison. The misery this affair has spread through numberless families is indescribable. Such are the blessed effects of the system under which Englishmen are at present suffering : it being notorious (at least in this neighbourhood) that honest industry cannot procure even a bare subsistence for the labourer and his family. The prisoners on their trial had no council.—*Examiner.*

Debrett’s Calendar.—We perceive by Debrett’s Calendar, that Edward Johnston, Esq. is a Commissioner for Appeals at the Excise Office : and again, that Edward Johnston, Esq. is also Comptroller of the Stamp-Office.—The Courier of Wednesday gives a list of the Household of the Viceroy of Ireland, in which we find that Edward Johnston, Esq. fills the two distinct offices of Private Secretary and Comptroller. The Marquis Wellesley has a son, we believe, named Edward Johnston.—It is this young gentleman who fills at the same time these various, active, and lucrative offices in England and Ireland ? If so, he is not only a “fortunate youth,” but the father’s asserted wonderful official powers are quite surpassed by those of his son ! To be a busy man in two island kingdoms at the same moment, to fill the Offices of Commissioner of Excise, Comptroller of Stamps, Private Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, and the Comptroller of his Household, certainly requires no common facilities. He really must be quite another Crichton ! His name ought to have been Legion : and if he adds to his powers as he advances in years. “By heaven, he will bestride the world like a Colossus !”—What sort of a Being must the dismissed public clerks take him for ? And those who have thus crammed him with well-paid appointments in these days of sufficing what most they be ? Shame ! Shame ! It is not nor it cannot come to good.—*Examiner.*

Advantages of Rating.—A few weeks ago, there was a vacancy amongst the Commissioners of the Lottery office at Somerset Place. These situations are comfortable little sinecures of £300 per annum each ; and about two-thirds of the Commiss-

sioners reside at a distance from London, and their duties are then performed by such of their colleagues who are on the spot, and who by such extra attendance increase their pay to about £200 per annum. The conscientious and religious Lord Liverpool resolved, that the vacancy in question should not be filled up; but a member of the house failing in his application for the place, considered himself very ill-used. Subsequently, however, to this member's disappointment, the Duke of Buckingham applied to Lord Liverpool to the Commissionership, and obtained it; the place being bestowed upon a Friend of the Duke's eldest son. "So much for Buckingham." — *Examiner.*

Falling in Price.—A Noble and Literary Lord, observing on the universal reduction, said that every thing had fallen in price but the Grenvilles.—This is not only true but strange, considering what a heavy commodity they have long been in the market.

Gold Medal.—Mr. Drake, midshipman of the *SEVERN*, has been recently presented with a rich gold medal, by the King of the Netherlands, for his humane and successfull exertions in saving from a watery grave a Dutch sailor, one of the crew of a vessel lately wrecked on the Sussex coast, off Winchelsea.

Exeter Concerts.—The Grand Concerts commenced on Wednesday evening, and a more brilliant assemblage of fashionable visitants has seldom been witnessed. The performance, under Mr. Loder, as leader, commenced with Mozart's Overture to *Zauberflöte*, which was excellently performed by the whole Band.—Mr. Sapiro made his debut in an Italian Air, and was received with merited applause. His pathos and grace when singing, what the Italians call cantabile, graciouza, and bravura, is in the very first style. Miss Stephens made her appearance with Mr. Sapiro, in an Italian Duet, by Rossini, which was rapturously applauded. Indeed the whole of the evening's performance reflects the greatest credit on Mr. Paddon, and afforded the highest gratification to the audience.—*Devonshire Freeholder*, Friday, April 12.

Irish Insurrection Act.—We formerly noticed a striking instance of the severity of the Irish Insurrection Act. The Manchester Guardian comments upon it as follows:—The son of a respectable farmer proceeds to a neighbouring fair, to sell cattle. When he has finished his business, a neighbour permits him to mount behind him on his horse, and carries him part of the way home, —sets him down at a place where his father has a farm, within three quarters of a mile of his own house, in order that (as he at the time stated) he might go and prepare for the next morning's market, some corn, which he was obliged to sell for the purpose of paying his rent. But the time of sun set was twenty-three minutes past five—the curfew of the insurrection act is an hour afterwards—and the prisoner is found talking to a neighbour at three quarters past six. On this charge he is taken into custody, tried the next day—not by a jury, but by a bench of magistrates found guilty, and adjudged to be transported for seven years; the sentence being carried into execution that very night. Besides the police officer who took (Carroll) the prisoner into custody, and who stated nothing of importance except that fact, there was only another person examined—a Mr. Fitzgerald, the magistrate by whom he was committed, and who swore that the prisoner was suspected,—that there was an old transaction in which he was implicated,—that the prisoner had a bad character among the magistrates, (the persons were then engaged in trying him)—that a man, who durst not come forward, had privately sworn that the prisoner was one of a party who had made an attack upon his house,—and that he (Fitzgerald) had heard that the prisoner (Carroll) was a conspirator, and connected with a party who had beat a man. In a British court of Justice, not one word of this evidence could have been received. It is not a crime to be suspected; the prisoner's former misdeeds (which, by the way, appear never to have been proved) had nothing to do with the charge for which he was upon trial; and no allusion to the assassin like accusations of a fellow who durst not give his testimony openly, or to what the magistrate had heard, ought

to have been, for a moment, tolerated. In passing sentence¹ the Crown Sergeant—one of which body presides at all the special sessions held under the insurrection act, whose freedom from local prejudices was as ministers stated in Parliament, to prevent the insurrection act from being rigidly or oppressively administered,—told the prisoner, he had not proved his innocence. Not proved his innocence! He was not called upon to prove it; for we appeal to any man, whether the evidence disclosed an even *prima facie*, of his guilt.

State of Ireland.—The Insurrection act is enforced with the utmost strictness in Limerick, and yet outrage not only still exists but would appear to be quite unchecked. The insurgents continue to form their depot in the mountains near Newcastle, to which six cows, the property of the Rev. Wm. Ashe, were driven off as late as Sunday night. There was a man of the name of Ambrose (who was formerly in the employment of the late Courtney Agent), murdered near Newmarket a few nights since. In Kerry and Cork the Insurgents are still active. No arms have yet been surrendered in any of the disturbed districts, with the exception of a few to the Catholic Clergymen.

The Dublin papers of last week announced in the list of outrage the murder of P. Hart, the Stewart of John Brown, Esq., who was stoned to death by the White Boys, in the Liberties of Limerick on Saturday last; and that of Thomas Knox of the police, who having been for some time in a bad state of health, was on his way to his friends at Moat, on a car covered with an awning, attended only by a female relation, and the boy who drove, when between Kilbeggan and Horseleap, five or six men came up, and removing him off the car, fell upon him with sticks, and literally clost his skull, walking away deliberately. Some of the wretches engaged in this horrible assassination have been taken into custody.

Endless details are given in the Country Papers of the proceedings of the Special Sessions. The cases have in all instances a strong similarity, and the convictions are nearly as numerous as the arraignments. We see in the Papers before us only two cases having any peculiarity in them that demands particular notice in our columns. Denis Murphy was tried on Monday in Limerick, for being absent from his house. It appears that he was peacefully asleep in another house, and was not at home for a considerable time—but being a person of bad character, he was found guilty, and shipped off. Another individual, Brien Rourke, was tried on the same day for having concealed arms. It appeared that he had no arms, but articles that from component parts of such instruments, that is to say, two gunlocks. He, however, was also a man of bad character, and it was decided that he, too, should be shipped off. If law has any efficacy in awakening a salutary terror in the minds of the licentious, we should think that it would be found in proceedings like these. Yet it is quite horrible to think that the Limerick peasantry are still unreclaimed! In Cork there has been some time consumed in preliminary arrangements, and there have as yet been few convictions.

Divine Service has been suspended for some weeks in the Parish of Castlemagner, County of Cork—the resident Clergymen, Rev. J. Rogerson Cotter, fearing the Church would be burned whilst he would be engaged in worship!—*Glasgow Chronicle*, March 24.

Buckingham House.—It is understood that Buckingham-house, together with its extensive gardens, have been offered to the First Lord of the Treasury, to be purchased for the country at a round sum. It was at the same time suggested to Lord Liverpool that these gardens contain ample space on which to erect a grand suite of apartments, calculated to receive the national library now in the British Museum, and all the sublime works of art and curiosity at present very inconveniently deposited in that irregular and piecemeal building. The Noble Lord graciously declined this offer, urging, as an excuse, the dilapidated state of our finances, and actuated by a jealous fear of the *lynx eyed* scrutiny of some of the Opposition Members of a certain Honourable House.

Newspaper Chat.

We understand that his Grace of Buckingham has signified to his tradesmen in Buckingham, that in consequence of his Grace's having reduced his rents to his tenants, they must lower their prices one third, or he will get his articles from London.—*Bucks Chronicle*.

The late Mr. Peiry, proprietor of the MORNING CHRONICLE, has, it is said, left property to the amount of 100,000*ls.*

A Dublin Surgeon has been committed to Newgate, to take his trial for robbing a Gentleman whom he was to attend in a duel. They slept together the night before the meeting was to have taken place, and in the morning the disciple of Esculapius picked the pocket of the son of Honour.—*Limerick Chronicle*.

Steam Carriages.—A patent has been recently secured by Mr. Griffith, of Brompton, a Gentleman not unknown in the literary world by his Travels in Asia Minor. Mr. G. in connexion with a professor of mechanism on the Continent, has (it is said) at length solved the long-considered problem of propelling by steam carriages capable of transporting merchandise and also passengers, upon common roads, without the aid of horses. The construction of such a carriage is now proceeding at the manufactory of Messrs. Bramah. The power to be applied in the machine is equal to that of six horses, and the carriage will be twenty-eight feet in length, running upon three-inch wheels, and equal to the conveyance of three tons and a half, with a velocity from three to seven miles per hour, varied at pleasure.

Sunday week, a young man took a large quantity of laudanum, for the purpose of committing suicide. The deadly opiate, however, had a contrary effect; and instead of death, it brought on such a violent vomiting, as to clear the Stomach of its contents, among which was a large worm! It is remarkable that he immediately got better, and boasts of being more cheerful in spirits and more healthy since the occurrence than ever he was before.

Remarkable Delivery.—A certain country lady (Miss A. C.—*xx*) was on Monday night, the 1st of April, privately delivered at St. Stephen's, with circumstances of extraordinary secrecy and precaution. Many are the stories in circulation respecting this dark affair. From a very early stage of her pregnancy, the lady was reported to have betrayed symptoms of a singularly depraved appetite; she would not listen to reason—insisted on being delivered by the Taxgatherer—and indulged, indeed, in the wildest wishes and most idle speculations. Before the patient was taken in labour, the Doctor who had for many years bled, blistered, and physicked the family, suddenly took fright, and retired, alarmed at appearances; her case was then almost solely committed to the care of an Irish quack, L—L—V, with whom there is too much reason to believe the unhappy creature had long carried on an intrigue most injurious to her character, and fatal to her interests. Every old gossip in town has her respective story concerning the issue of this disgraceful amour. Some say it is a miscarriage others an abortion—all agree as to a still birth; there are those again who protest it will be found to resemble the Endriago of Amadis, a monster of mischief, breathing desolation and famine. The sage femme, Goody Goo—H, who assisted at a former birth, preserves a discreet silence; while the supposed real father begs, with parental tenderness, that it may be kept quite close for three weeks; as the slightest breath will be the destruction of the puny infant; he says it is a very little one. Of this there is no doubt, that whether the thing can bear the light or not, however monstrous or deformed the portentous offspring may be it will surely be legitimatised, and may live to take the bread out of the mouths of honest folks' children. Report says, indeed, that the brat is marked with a starving mechanic; the mother had certainly strange longings. One thing is certainly whimsical enough, that it was delivered by Goody G—, the sage femme, on the 1st of April, the day dedicated to pueril fooleries, and observed, amongst the infant generation, by the discovery of mare's nests, pigeon's milk, and the invention of *idle Reports*.—*Morning Chronicle*.

Mr. Elliston intends going to Paris, it is said, with the whole of Drury-lane Company.

THE PAMPHLET, in the Number just published, has, besides the Ministerial State of the Nation (which, bombastical, confused, and illogical, as it is, yet very useful for reference and several other curious pamphlets, a work called *THE ELECTORS' REMEMBRANCER*, which, if continued as it has been begun, will be of great use. It gives an account of the votes of each Member on all important questions, and especially on the motions for retrenchment. Besides the mere list of votes, there are very useful remarks which bring to mind some of the fractious Honorable Members, which among the multitude of such things the public are apt to forget.

The Editor of this Paper on Tuesday last, at the Court of Pleas, in this City, pleaded "Not Guilty," to the indictment found against him at the last Assizes for having published a libel upon the late Marquis of Lon-

donderry, with the intention of bringing the family and posterity of the late Marquis into contempt; and was held to bail, himself in 5*ls.* and two sureties in 2*ls.* each.—*Durham Chronicle*.

Superstition and Gallantry.—George I. told the Duchess of Kendal his left-handed wife that if he could he would appear to her after his death. Soon after that event, a large bird flew into her window. She believed it was the King's soul, and took the utmost care of it.—George II. was not less credulous; he believed in vampires.—George I., besides the Duchess of Kendal, had several other mistresses, particularly one whom he brought over and created Countess of Darlington; by whom he was father of Charlotte, Viscountess Howe, though she was not publicly avowed. In the last year or two of his life he had another mistress, Miss Anne Brett, daughter, by her second husband, Colonel Brett, of the famous divorced Countess of Macclesfield, mother of Savage the poet.—*Lord Orford's Memoirs*.

The Last Master.—On re-entering the parlour, I found the widow in a state of comparative serenity, and calculated on passing the evening without further outrage to her feelings. The tea equipage was already set out, and I recalled that simple but exquisite picture of fireside enjoyment, which C— was so fond of quoting:

"The heart was swept, the fire was bright,
The kettle on for tea," &c. &c.
When my attention was called to Juno, who instead of basking leisurely before the fire, as was her wont, kept searching round the room, smelling to every individual, and occasionally planting herself close to the door with an earnest air, as if expecting the arrival of some one else. After waiting some time, she betook herself to the rug with an appearance of disappointment, whence she presently started with a short bark and expression of alacrity towards the door. It was Patty entering with the urn. Now if Juno had been in a frame of mind to be easily pleased, she could not have uttered such a discontented growl at the sight of Patty, whose fair complexion, auburn hair, red arms, and somewhat substantial figure, constituted her a pleasing specimen of the rural English or rather Saxon beauty; while her manner and attire rendered her a worthy counterpart to Milton's "neat-handed Phyllis." Juno, however, who had no eyes except for her poor master, whom she was never to see more, returned grumbling to the rug. Exactly the same eager excitement and sulky disappointment occurred when the maid returned with the toast; but the dog, instead of contenting herself with the rug upon this occasion, stood before her mistress, looked wistfully in her face, and whined, as if inquiring for her master. I exchanged glances with my wife, and saw at once that we mutually understood what was passing in Juno's mind as well as her mistress's. Poor widowed sufferer! I saw her nostrils dilating, the muscles of her mouth working, and her eyes filling, though by a resolute effort at self-command, she was striving to suppress and swallow down the rising emotion. She might perhaps have succeeded; but Juno, after again listening some time at the door, while a dead silence reigned in the chamber, finally placed herself before her mistress, and set up the most dismal and affecting howl, I ever heard. My heart sank within me, as if a cold hand had been dragging it down, and I tell my eyes suffused. My wife had turned towards the window to hide her emotion, for I perceived that she was weeping. But who shall describe the agony of the widow! The gush of passion overpowered all the barriers of resolution and religion—the woman predominated over the Christian,—and her emotions flowed more vehemently from the previous contrast to which they had been subjected. Convulsive and hysterical sobs for some time choked her utterance; and when she was able to articulate, as if anxious to excuse the violence of her grief by the virtues of its object, she turned towards me and exclaimed, "Wasn't he a kind creature? Every body loved him! And even Juno, you see, cannot forget him! O! Sir, you don't know half the kind, generous, and charitable things he did in private!"—Her feelings again overpowered her: she sank her head upon Juno's, who by this time had leaped into her lap; and I shall never forget her woe-stricken look when she raised it and sobbed out—*Pshaw!* where is my handkerchief—my tears are blotting the paper.—When she sobbed out—Gentle reader, forgive me; my heart and my eyes are both too full; I cannot write a word more.—*London Mag. Art. The Old White Hat*.

Torture.—We learn (says an article from Hanover) that an ordinance is expected shortly to appear, abolishing the use of Torture in the Kingdom of Hanover.—As Hanover has been so long under the paternal government of "the best of Kings," the Georges (for all are "the best") particularly the last "most beloved Sovereign," Geo. III., how has it happened, that this wicked practice has been continued to this very day? Perhaps the Rev. Gentleman who writes bombastic verses, and makes silly and bombastic speeches in favour of the erection of a monument to the deceased monarch's happy memory, will notice this fact in one of his next puffed-out and puffed-off orations.—Napoleon, while he ruled Hanover, abolished the diabolical practice; but it was revived when the Holy Allies succeeded in putting up the Bourbons again. The abolition will do his present Majesty credit.

MISCELLANEOUS.

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State of the Country.

(From the Times.)

From the discoveries which have taken place with respect to the state of our foreign missions, the nation has had a pretty sample of the virtue of public men, as well as of the control which Ministers exercise over the public purse, and of the feeling which they entertain for the distresses of the people, when put in competition with the obligation they are under to feed their rapacious adherents. Whether we look at the new jobs or the old jobs in the diplomatic line, we are alike shocked and disgusted. Lord Barghersh—he at least will recollect—had a promotion downwards in the army some years ago; but he has been amply remunerated for the disappointment of the disinterested views which were then unhappily frustrated. We have heard—but the iniquity of the thing deters even us from believing it, familiarized as we are to the contemplation of disgraceful actions of public men—but we have heard that, besides the salary of near four thousand a-year as resident at Florence, his Lordship receives an additional sum of five hundred a-year under the pretence of being Ambassador at Lucca, and five hundred a-year more as the representative of his Majesty at Modena. But to quit these doubtful points, and to advert only to substantial but painful truths. We boldly aver, and shall most indisputably prove, that even the Florence legation is a job altogether, meant only to pay a party adherent out of the public property. For why should we have a resident at Florence, where the Grand Duke of Tuscany has none here? Is not this contrary to the law of nations? Is it not a violation of the practice of civilized states? Most indisputable. But it may be said, "we have always had an Envoy at the Court of Florence." Yes, we reply, and that for a reason which has now ceased to operate. While the Pretender resided at Rome, and was there acknowledged as King of England, we of course, could have no ambassador at the Vatican: Florence, therefore, was the place fixed on as the most convenient for watching the motions of the Jacobites; but with the death of the last Prince of the house of Stuart one mission to Florence should have expired of course, there being no reciprocal appointment at the Court of St. James's on the part of the Grand Duke, and the Austrian mission comprehending the affairs of the states governed by branches of the Austrian family. And, under any circumstances, if we pay for Envoys, they ought, for form and decency's sake, to be at least present at the Courts where it is pretended their services are required; whereas we pay to our Ambassadors at Vienna, Frankfort and Florence, an annual sum of more than twenty thousand a-year, and they are all here resident in England!

We cannot quit the subject of Embassies without saying a few words upon that of Naples. Under any other circumstances, we should rejoice very much in the appointment of such a man as Mr. Hamilton on our part; but under existing circumstances, we are of opinion that diplomatic relations between us and Ferdinand ought to cease, because he has ceased from being King of Naples. What right has a man to send and entertain Ambassadors at the Courts of Europe, as an independent Sovereign every part of whose dominions, his capital, his Court, his person, are in the custody of a foreign army? When the kingdom of the Two Sicilies was transferred, as it virtually was, to the House of Austria, its diplomatic relations, whether they were amicable or hostile, ought to have been managed with the agents of the new Sovereign—the dominant Power. England may not be the first to note this change; neither will the present French Ministry set upon it; but we trust that the Constitutional Government of Spain will intimate to the Neapolitan Ambassador at Madrid, that his functions have ceased, since Austria became master of his country.

Account of pensions granted by his Majesty to persons holding, or who have held, high and efficient civil offices, under an act passed 57 Geo. III., cap. 65.

Date of Grant.	To whom granted.	Amount.
December 15, 1821,	Henry Viscount Sidmouth....	£3,000
	Right Hon. H. Goulburn.....	1,000

Mr. Goulburn, now holding the office of Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, cannot under the above act, receive the pension.

Whitehall Treasury Chambers, March 27, 1822.

By the several acts of the 57th George III., cap. 60, 61, 62, 63, and 64, several sinecure offices were abolished, and others regulated after the expiration of existing interests; and by an act of the same year, cap. 65, and part of the same system, a power was given to the King to remunerate persons holding, or who have held certain high and efficient public offices. One of the offices reduced and regulated is that of Clerk of the Pells, which sinecure, Lord Sidmouth had taken for himself or for a younger and better life, as a reward for his public services. The same Lord Sidmouth now, it appears, derives the double advantage of holding at the same time the office of Clerk of the Pells in the name of his son, and of the grant of 3,000L a-year pension, under the 57th of the late King, which enabled the crown to remunerate the servants of the public

out of a new fund created expressly to replace the ancient sinecure abolished or regulated after the expiration of the present existing interests. The office of Clerk of the Pells is at least 3,000L a-year, and the public is at the same time loaded both with the ancient sinecure and the modern pension, amounting in the whole to 5,000L a-year, besides Richmond-park-lodge, (and pensions granted to relatives) as the remuneration of the public services of Henry Viscount Sidmouth. Mr. Addington held the situation of Speaker of the House of Commons for the period of nearly eight years, and was then tempted by a preposterous ambition to quit a place which he was well enough qualified to fill (*vox et preterea nihil*), in exchange for one he was most unfit for: from a tolerable Speaker, he became a wretched Minister.

If we inquire what benefit the country has derived from the public service of Lord Sidmouth, now so munificently rewarded in contempt of the public distress, we shall find that the value received is less than that conferred by any man whom the caprice of fortune has placed at any time in any of the high and efficient offices of the state, and no noble man has ever received so ample a provision, excepting always the unregulated offices of Tellers of the Exchequer, which, when granted, did not exceed 2,000L a-year. An experiment was made in the person of Mr. Addington, to ascertain with how little qualification, natural, or acquired, a great country could be governed in the most arduous circumstances; and at the same time a trial was made of the omnipotence of the court, which after that experiment might have sent the jackboot's jackboot to carry on the concerns of Government. It now remains only to compare the rewards of meritorious servants of the public in former times, as well as those of living statesmen, with the remuneration of Henry Lord Sidmouth.

Lord Godolphin, who had no patrimony of his own—and what private fortune he afterwards enjoyed he accidentally inherited after long and ably executing the duties of Lord High Treasurer—had the grant of a pension of 4,000L, which was never paid—Lord Sidmouth has 5,000L! The great Lord Chatham had, during his life, only a grant of 3,000L (that of 4,000L a-year to his heirs was made by Parliament after his death)—Lord Sidmouth has 5,000L!

Lord Grenville, whose talents and length of service may be compared with those of Lord Sidmouth, is Auditor of the Exchequer, 4,000L—Lord Sidmouth has 5,000L! Lord Liverpool has the office of Constable of Dover castle, 4,000L—Lord Sidmouth has 5,000L!

Another Public Defaulter.

The following paragraph has appeared in most of the papers:—

"Mr. Mainwaring has resigned his office as chief Magistrate of Marlborough-street. He has also resigned the Treasurership of the County of Middlesex. This step was, we understand, rather suddenly taken, and Mr. Mainwaring, it is said, quitted or is about to quit, the kingdom for distant part of the globe."

None of the pap era, we believe, have yet stated the cause of these sudden resignations of eagerly sought-for offices. The fact is, Mr. GEORGE BOLTON MAINWARING is a Public Defaulter: he has used, or carried off, the money of the County of Middlesex, to the amount of *Seventeen Thousand Pounds*—at least that is the sum at present named. How long Mr. Mainwaring has been using the public money for his own purposes, is not exactly ascertained; but it is generally believed, that he has been acting a very improper part for several of the 17 years that he has been Treasurer to the County. This belief is strengthened by the fact of his having sent his wife and children to live in France, where he occasionally visited them: so it would seem that he had for some time expected an explosion, which would compel him to withdraw himself from the country.

Various reports are of course in circulation respecting the Defaulter—some of them very injurious to his reputation. He has used, it is said, some persons extremely ill, leaving them to struggle with heavy debts, contracted for his benefit. A County Treasurer gives of course security for the trust reposed in him; but there is a whisper about a good-for-nothing stamp, on which the bond was drawn! Sir NATHANIEL CONANT is said to be one of his Securities; and probably he can throw some light on the transaction. How far some of the Middlesex Magistrates may be implicated, on the score of neglect, we shall most likely shortly be able to discover.

One who well knew human nature, has enjoined us to "press not a fallen man too far;" and, for our own parts, we shall be most happy, in a future number, to state any thing we can collect, which may serve to extenuate Mr. Mainwaring's conduct. Even now it is proper to mention, that we hear nothing alleged respecting his pecuniary habits, as far as they regarded his private expenses, that is at all injurious to his character. At present, indeed, the cause of his default is a mystery: it is one however, which, in a little time we dare say we shall be able to unravel.

On the Opposition in Parliament.

— “Sapere Aude.”—Hor.

We are of the number of those who consider a strong and energetic Opposition to the measures of Government as one of the greatest bulwarks of the constitution. It not only fans the flame of civil and religious liberty, but tends to secure to us the enjoyment of our most valuable rights. Constituted as our Government is, without such an Opposition we should be ignorant of almost every thing that happened within the walls of Parliament. Discussion would sleep; the Minister would only have to propose his measures; the House would acquiesce; and thus the matter would end! In this state of affairs, a free press would be good for nothing; for it would have nothing to communicate but what was *laudatory* to the Administration; and the nation, ignorant of what was going forward, would neither have its intelligence extended, nor its judgment exercised, upon questions the most important to its prosperity and happiness. A night of political ignorance and apathy would steal upon the nation. The voice of the people, against obnoxious and tyrannical measures, would not be heard; and Government, left without this salutary control, would do just as it pleased. But, “as iron sharpeneth iron,” so the *debates* in Parliament sharpen the wit, call forth the talents, and animate the exertions of the Representatives of the nation, many of whom thus become famed for their abilities, or renowned for wisdom.

With such an Opposition, eminently gifted and skilled in all the leading questions of the day, every subject of vital importance receives the most thorough investigation. All the powers of Administration, and of the Opposition, are brought into action, and made to bear upon it. It is viewed in all its aspects; its strong and its weak points, its advantages and disadvantages, its good and its evil, are set before us; which, through the medium of excellent reports,* and a free press, are carried to every corner of the country; and thus a vivifying and refreshing stream is sent to circulate throughout the land, spreading every where healthy, vigorous, and constitutional principles.

The Opposition may be considered as performing a similar office in Parliament, to that which a “fly” does in mechanics. The fly, in machinery, regulates the unequal pressure on the main wheels, and, producing a steadier motion throughout, makes every thing go on better than it would otherwise do. The friction is thereby considerably removed from the unequal pressures, and the celerity of its other parts, which would soon destroy the whole machinery, is retarded. It is thus with the Opposition. Their whole object is to remove the pressure of those burdens which are crushing the nation to death, and to retard and limit the celerity of those measures which, but for such counterposing influence, would end in the ruin of our liberties!

The services of the Opposition, in this respect, need not here be reconned. They must be known to every one, who will allow himself to think for a moment on the subject. Besides their *direct* influence on the measures of Government, they have an *indirect* one, which operates as a preventive, and nips many obnoxious measures in the bud, which otherwise would be brought forward, and ripen into a fatal maturity.

But an Opposition, to be useful, must be dignified, and possess entire credit with the country for purity of intention, and commanding abilities. In requiring this purity of intention, however, we are far from shutting them out from those rewards, and that preferment, to which their ambition may lead them to aspire. On the contrary, we think these objects perfectly legitimate, and would animate them to seek, by every

* Opposition is more indebted to the reports of its effective energy within the walls of Parliament, than to any other circumstance. Constantly, or nearly so, in the minority, what had the members of Opposition to look to but the concurring and co-operating power of public opinion? But public opinion would be utterly powerless, were it not for the aliment furnished by the reports. These, however, are not the only benefit resulting from reports given, as many of them now are, by men of first rate abilities. They act as a powerful restraint on the Members of both sides of the House, who know that their sentiments are to be tried by a tribunal that cannot be intimidated or cajoled into an unfair or partial decision; and thus they tend to encourage the Members of Parliament to excel equally in virtue, integrity, and eloquence. The Proprietors of the daily Morning Papers, and especially of the *Times*—in point of reports, and early and authentic intelligence, unquestionably the first paper in the world, (from which too, that beggarly rogue the *Courier* is compelled to purloin matter for his inglorious pages,)—deserve well of their country, by the magnificent liberality with which they reward men of talent who devote themselves to the very difficult, but invaluable, art of reporting. It is remarkable how little of human happiness is owing to the schemes of legislators, and how much to accident or the enterprise of enlightened individuals!—*Euron.*

honorable means, those offices and places of trust, emolument, and power, which must be enjoyed by every effective Administration. Without possessing these, it would be impossible for them to carry on the affairs of the nation, and to introduce into the Government those ameliorations which, in the present moment, are so essentially necessary for the welfare and permanent prosperity of our country, and which the public voice now so loudly demands.

To obtain these, the Opposition must persevere in its exertions to expose the pseudo measures of Administration. It must continue to hold the office of *Public Censor*, and to criticise, with just severity, those encroachments upon the constitution which have of late years been from time to time so unspareingly made upon it. To enable it to do this, Opposition has many advantages. It is easy to object to, or deny the utility of the plans proposed. The discussing of the Budget; of the Army and Navy Estimates; of the laying on of taxes; with the topics of economy, retrenchment, and reform; and a thousand others, as popular as these, give incalculable advantages to the Opposition over Administration, advantages which make their every word tell on the feelings and passions of the public.

Besides these advantages, there is another, and that is, the power of asking questions of Ministers. If direct answers be given, the secret is out, and the affair is turned against Administration. If they are withheld, they enable the Opposition to give the most unfavourable construction to the silence of Ministers, and to prejudice them in the eyes of the nation. The people never reflect, that, to give an answer to a question, or to explain, would often be injurious to the public service. They have no idea of official secrecy, and official prudence; and, therefore, when a plain common-sense question is met by silence, they begin to conjecture, and to surmise the cause; and as it is easier for poor human nature to impute bad than good motives, the people are led to believe that there is something under it which they dare not avow, or of which they are ashamed. This silence, often preceding the introduction of unpopular measures, gives an influence and advantage to the Opposition which their eloquence seldom fails to improve. By too many obnoxious acts, the Administration dig the mine for themselves, and lay the train; and the Opposition has only to set it on fire, to produce the explosion.

The recourse to such measures has been painfully frequent of late. Whether it is in the temper of the people, which renders a recurrence to such measures necessary, or in the mal-administration of the Government, it is not our intention here to enquire. The fact is unquestionable, from which ever of these causes it originates. The incessant periodical returns of almost general discontent, in one part or other of the empire, render strong measures necessary; but these, instead of allaying the discontent, only for a little suppress it, till a favourable opportunity arrives, and then it bursts forth with greater violence than ever. It is but a little time since Great Britain was in alarm and dread from the turbulence of Radicalism and of Reform; and now poor, deluded, and misguided Ireland is in a state bordering on insurrection. There is a *feirishness* in the *Body Politic*, from whatever cause it proceeds, which must either destroy the patient, or, turning to madness, may lead it, in a fit of insanity, to destroy its physicians.

This the Administration knows perfectly; yet arrogating to itself the approbation of the moderate and enlightened, it allows the people to fume, and to rage, and to cry in vain for reform from one end of the empire to the other; and pretends, all the while, to see with indifference if not with contempt, the highest civic honours and applause bestowed on its political antagonists. But the approbation of the moderate and enlightened is not the *exclusive* prerogative of Administration. The talents of the modern Athens of the North, for example, are arrayed against Ministers. If the Scottish Bar were to be polled, there would be found ranged, almost exclusively, on the side of Opposition, most of her sons, who possess the most splendid talents and the most commanding genius—men who, from the brilliancy of their parts, the variety of their minds, the extent of their knowledge, the logical closeless of their reasoning, and the overwhelming torrent of eloquence in which it is often conveyed, are the pride and boast of their country, and may fairly be pitted against the members of any other Bar in Europe. Yet these men whose powers equally astonish and delight us, are almost all of them leagued with Opposition in the great leading question of Government; and must, in the common course of events, if mind acts on mind, and superior motives sway actions, lead the public judgment, and turn it against the measures of the present rulers.

With these there is a powerful *phalanx* combined throughout the empire. You have only to calculate the strength of Dissenters, who are Whigs, in Scotland, England, and Ireland!—of the Reformers, and Radicals, too, in these countries, and the malcontents of the Catholics, clamouring for emancipation, to appreciate the mighty force ready to start into activity the moment that any favourable opportunity offers in order to turn out the Ministry, and modify the Government.

The active efficiency of all these classes the Opposition well knows, and fulfils their expectation by the possession and exertion of kindred talents and sentiments. These, combined with industry and research, with an honest boldness of statement, and a felicity of detecting and exposing financial errors and wasteful and improvident expenditure, in the various departments of the state, have raised the Opposition high in the esteem and confidence of a grateful nation, and obtained, for some of its members, unbounded applause.

Adelphi Theatre.

Every age hath its own wonders; and this latter age is, in that respect, certainly not behind hand. It is, however, some time since we assumed the happy doctrine of "Nil admirari," &c: or perhaps our admiration might have been tempted to transgress its limits at the admirable powers of MATTHEWS. We readily concur, that if any thing might justify the transgression, it would be the wonderful combination of talent which centres in that accomplished man. Allowing thus much for others, we are at the same time entitled to wonder at those complacent folks, who, in the boundlessness of their astonishment, when contemplating extraordinary ability, are wont to set bounds to nature and to human application. We hear them exclaim, "There never was, nor can be such another!"

Like them to mortal eyes
None e'er has risen, and none e'er shall rise.

Now, to us, the very existence of perfection necessarily suggests the likelihood of rivalry at least; and why not of preter—nay, preter-perfection! Nature, we think, is not exhausted; and art, we are sure, is inexhaustible. Neither is this any detraction from existing and positive merit: for the time it is superlative, and is only comparative hypothetically. The ablest, the wisest, and the best, have contemplated and confided in attainments far above their powers; and why will we know better—or rather, why should we, in this respect, know less than they?

We crave pardon for these remarks if found to be irrelevant. In truth they are written (as we suspect not unfrequently the case), more to settle our own thoughts, which have been inclined to run riot, than to excite those of others. But we are fresh from the enjoyment of a visit to MATTHEWS at home, and of a soirée passed with the no less (in his way) surprising Mons. ALEXANDER. We have had much ado to "bride in our struggling wonderment," and have been obliged to recal the above comfortable thesis.

Of course it is supererogatory to advise one's friends to go and see MATTHEWS; but even the most ardent admirers of his personations and personifications will, we doubt not, derive considerable amusement from the talents of the extraordinarily gifted foreigner. The envious, the incredulous, and those who speculate on the possible results of mental and physical powers concentrated in one pursuit, should certainly avail themselves of his exhibition. It is true he addresses himself almost exclusively to the senses; they will therefore expect but a small portion of that intellectual delight which MATTHEWS so triumphantly diffuses around him: they will indeed learn no more than the Indian jugglers may have already taught them. The great charm, that of sympathy, by which MATTHEWS leads captive the willing minds of his audience, cordially abandoned to the stream of enjoyment, is in ALEXANDER necessarily and manifestly wanting. The one receives as much pleasure (we hope so) as he affords; in the other we cannot wholly divest ourselves of the feeling that we hear a man say his lesson. A great advantage the former possesses over his competitor, in that "conversational web" by which he ingratiate himself with his company, gives relief to his entertainment, and comparative repose to himself. ALEXANDER, from the structure of the drama he enacts, which is by no means deficient in point and humour, and is every way adapted to his peculiar powers, is obliged to keep his faculties upon the stretch from first to last: he indeed "plays many parts," but is every thing and every body except himself. We would not deprecate his talents as an actor, we rather deem them considerable; but not seeing him at home, we cannot decide satisfactorily to ourselves. This drawback, as will be readily conceived, arises from his still deficient articulation of the English language. But even in this particular, which implies a considerable enhancement of the pains his arduous undertaking requires, he is entitled to great praise. His application must have been intense to enable him to sustain the interlocution of seven or eight persons with all their characteristics, and we assure our readers, prepared as they would be to make allowances, they will feel the exactation but little after the first quarter of an hour. The attention is kept incessantly alert by his plasticity of features and variety of tones, his ubiquity, and the almost inexplicable promptitude of his transitions. He changes a character and invests it instantaneously with all its adjuncts, almost authenticating the *Brave of Venice* as a tale of real life. But let his ventriloquism speak for itself, which it can do in all the voices of Babel, perplexing the other senses through the medium of the ear. For the complete success of the delusion, witness the outstretched necks of spectators in the side boxes, anxious to convince themselves no other speaker was present.

It is observable that many objects which, in nature, are any thing but interesting or agreeable, become so when faithfully represented by art. Pigs feeding and dogs fighting have attractions only for the vulgar, but the pencil or a Morland or a Landseer can render such objects worthy a place in the galleries of rank and taste. It is thus with the imitation of Mons. ALEXANDER. We have no predilection for sawing or plaining, and should stop our ears at the howling and barking of a disturbed kennel. Very hungry must we be when the "note of preparation" produced by the hissing and fretting fryingpan is heard with pleasure. Neither are we fond of hearing even our own children cry on being abruptly waked up. But aptly introduced, and imitated to the life as we have just heard them, such sounds have charms to excite a certain gratification. The ear recognises the accuracy of the counterfeiting, and its perspicacity in the readiness of that recognition, is not a little flattered.

"These things we know are neither new nor rare."

Every "fiddle of the company" can do something to the purpose; but for Mons. ALEXANDER, none but the *archetypes* can be his parallel. So strong is the deception we could not trust our eyes but fancied we saw the smoke arise from the cold fryingpan. At one time we were impatient to see a tipsy fellow with a broken head, emerge from the imaginary cellar, and knock down his persecutor: at another we expected a pack of unruly dogs, mongrel, puppy, whelp, and hound, to overrun the stage. On the night we were present, a genuine individual of the canine species attested his approbation by joining in the chorus, but, however mindful of the old Table, to our ears it was but a poor attempt! —To conclude, we were highly pleased ourselves, and not less so to see so many participate in our satisfaction: the house was very well attended. C.

New Picture.

MR. MARTIN'S PICTURE OF THE DESTRUCTION OF POMPEII AND HERCULANEUM.

This Picture having been just finished, was yesterday submitted to private inspection. Whatever qualities of the art were conspicuous in the former works of Mr. MARTIN, are here displayed in an eminent degree. There is no painting on the same scale which shews more industry in the collection of materials, or a more elaborate anxiety for correction in the local details. But in that feeling, which executive ability should not overlay but communicate, it is deficient. Perhaps the subject is one which is beyond the grasp of art, and may defy the happiest powers of her imitators; but, whether this be the case or not, the moral excellence of this production is not visible as the mechanical dexterity. In the attempt to give the disturbance of nature, circumstances the most awful which the imagination can conceive, the artist has not succeeded, and in this he has proved that the judgement was not so severe as the effort was adventurous. The greatest of the old Masters contrived to express the violence and fury of inanimate nature, by the emotions which her workings produced on the animated world, the only way in which an adequate sensation can be conveyed to the spectator. This principle is shewn in its grandest operation by MICHEL ANGELO, in his *Last Judgment*, and in a proportionate degree by the late Mr. WEST, in his *Flight of Lot*; we might also instance LOUtherbourg's picture of the *Fire of London*. But Mr. MARTIN has chosen to make the physical terrors predominate, and indeed obscure the sufferings of man, whom alone those operations of nature concern. In order to accomplish this, he has had recourse to a very objectionable and indeed unreal style of colouring. He has spread such a quantity of positive vermilion over the heavens, as at once catches and repels the eye. It is not the colour of flame, and would answer much better to express the prodigy of the shower of blood which was said to have fallen in Italy previous to the irruption of the Gauls. No attempt has been made either to relieve the eye by throwing some of the clouds into shade as would naturally happen; some of their masses might have been darkened over the distant ruins, and thus rendered more in unison with the gloomy tone of the water. The figures which are introduced in the fore-ground in various attitudes of distress, are too theatrical, and Pliny, the martyr of nature, is represented in an action which affords no distinctive trait of the hero and the philosopher. It is to be regretted that an artist who paints local circumstances with such exact fidelity of outline, does not pay more attention to the drawing and expression of the human figure, but should attempt to make up for a defect of both, by melo-dramatic action, and a dazzling glare of colours. On the whole this painting proves to us how dangerous is that facility of hand, and that talent for map-like delineation of nature, to the display of which, sentiment and elevated design and moral grandeur are sacrificed.—*Morning Chronicle*, March 30.

DEATHS.

At Maitlandfield, on the 3d of April, Colonel Charles Maitland, of Maitlandfield.

At Ensham hall, on the 1st of April, Colonel Patrick Hay, of the Hon. East India Company's Service.

Fine Arts.

PICTURE OF THE DESTRUCTION OF POMPEII AND HERCULANEUM.

"What thought can reach,
What language can express, the agonies,
The horrors of that hour!"

E. AUBREY'S *Last Day of Herculaneum*.

Whatever variety of opinion exists as to the kind and degree of Mr. Martin's genius, the fact of his being of a very high order is placed beyond a doubt, by the extraordinary interest which his pictures excite, not only among the graphically untutored, but the most cultivated tastes. They are not only crowded about in the Exhibition-room, but are the after-subjects of charmed recollection and discourse. Like impressions of friendship, they exist in the mind after the objects which first produce them are withdrawn from the sight; for without the aid of the Engraver and Printer, we carry away beautiful impressions of them upon our imaginations. They at once become interwoven in the finely-wrought texture of sensibility and thought. The fire of genius burns them at once into our memories. But the pure pictorial ore is not without alloy. Mr. Martin has a correct and elegant eye for the argument of his architecture, landscape, and figures, (of a mixture of which his works generally consists,) and a strong and imaginative conception of his subject; but he wants a proportionate power of proper execution, to give that conception all its force. In the language of his art, he is inferior to his invention. In the latter, he rises above common nature in the poetical; in the first, he is below it. His execution is indeed vigorous; but it is a mannered vigor. It has too little identification with the things represented, for its wants that true exterior of objects, that similitude to their surface in nature, which whether the subject be elevated or common, ought to characterise every picture, whatever some esteemed critics, with Reynolds, at their head, may say to the contrary;—such a truth of surface as represented the mist, the vegetation, &c. in Claude's pictures; and the flesh, &c. in Titian's, as Nature's own.—This true appearance never derogates from the dignity of Nature, but imitates a portion of her rich and beautiful variety. The picture, however, immediately under our observation, is in no small degree an exception to this animadversion; for its requisite volcanic luminousness is there not inappropriately represented by that clear and brittle look, which is mainly the erroneous surface we have been complaining of in this Artist's work. There has been also a want of more science and an unconstrained air in this Painter's figures, together with some of that deep but not externally agitated look of grief and despair, which Poussin, with so observant and various a knowledge of the human figure, physiognomy, and hoar, intermixed among others of a strenuous character. With a diminished, and indeed a comparatively small portion of these defects, including also the size of the picture, which seems too much to limit the magnificent and awful nature of the subject, the work is more complete than any previously painted by this Artist. The lines and groups are all beautifully arranged; and the light, from its central energy on Vesuvius, is gradually carried off with exquisite judgement to the darkened extremities of the picture, after blazing over the fate-emitting volcano, glaring on its contiguous objects, and decreasingly gleaming to the foreground. The mother, with her death-attended offspring at her side, exposing herself with open and inviting arms to the fiery deluge, and the wife, fallen on the bosom of her expired husband, are well chosen, because natural and pathetic groups. In the elevated foreground, are a family stretched on the ground dead; Roman centurions protecting their families under their shields; Pliny embracing his friend Pomponian; the family of Pomponians; the soldiers and slaves in attendance on him and Pliny; parts of the town of Stabia falling by earthquake. A little beyond these, are the multitudes of people crowding towards the shipping for safety. In the middistance, is the sea with ships, agitated by the earthquake; the town of Pompeii; the bridge of the Serna falling by earthquake; the Stabian way crowded with fugitives, &c.; Retius, the Villa Suburbana, &c. Remotely, are Oplontis, Herkenlancum, the sloping and hilly approaches to Vesuvius; and, above all, the stupendous Vesuvius, from whose summit rises a huge and bright column of fiery matter lava, &c. while down its sides is the rapid flow of the boiling and destroying lava, upon the ill-fated towns and country below. An immense "black and dreadful cloud," in which flash the "forked lightnings" overhangs the whole, and pours down hot ashes, stones, &c. and torrents of stony mud, which converted the cities and blooming fields into igneous sepulchres for their numerous and terrified people. In the fiery horror, and before inconceivable, Nature appears as if forsaken of her conservative power and her guardian God, and that great Principle of Evil was pouring out his phial of wrath upon inert

* In the year 1004 the stones reached Benevento, nearly 30 miles off; and in 1717, the boiling stream of lava was half a mile broad and 5 miles long.

but beauteous Nature, and upon sentient Man. Some very novel features of representation are seen in the perpendicular descent of the unbroken and ruthless sheet; the voluminous ascent of the smoky and pitchy cloud; the floods of streaming lava; the shields of the military held up against the sky-descending contests of Nature's artillery; the awful concavity above of combustions cloud, impenetrable to the sun's light, and vaulting and overwhelming an immense and populous country (where till now Nature and Art reposed in undisturbed glory) and an expanse of sea that moved with the gentle breathings of Nature, the breezes of health and commerce; the reddened fever with which she is all over flushed, except where varied with ashy grey and partial darkness from the nibulous covering, and where the blue electricity varies her crimson complexion previously to her deep moans in thunder, the resounding Vesuvius, and her loud panting respirations of air. The whole scene has a red and yellow reflex of fiery light, terrible in its glory, makes the spreading ocean, the winding shore, the stately edifices, the vegetative plains the gradually rising hills and mountain, with the astounded population, look like the Tartarean regions of punishment, anguish, and horror. Some persons have objected to this; but a Gentleman who has witnessed the eruption very many times, assures us that the fiery effect cannot be exaggerated. The Printer has made us see as well as feel the vivid essence of his art in these noble painted novelties—now novelties, though their originals have been, and in part are occasionally repeated from those great steam engines of the world—the nitrous Vesuvius and Etna.*

THE LATE MR. COSWAY.—A collection of drawings, Miniatures, and Paintings, from the hand of the late Mr. Cosway, and now exhibiting, afford many very pleasing specimens,—some, indeed, beautiful,—of the talents of that Painter in characterising the cheerfulness and grace of infancy and youth, and specially of women. His style of design, and the blending and roundness of his chiaroscuro, were evidently formed from a contemplation of that unequalled Master in those respects,—CORREGGIO. A painting in the Exhibition of *Love and Innocence*, is a peculiar example of this. It is one of the works that, in the words of POPE,

"Wakes the soul by tender strokes of Art."

These performance, we understand, are the property of the accomplished widow of the deceased artist, MARIA COSWAY, who intends, it is said, to proceed with them in a short time to France and Italy. We wish her every success in her becoming endeavours to enlarge the circle of Mr. Cosway's well-earned reputation as an artist. R. H.

Salmon Fishing.—The best fishing at Berwick is noble fishing—it may be called river whale-fishing;—it is catching salmon. What a glorious thing it is to get a name. When this salmon arrives in London it is called Newcastle salmon; but sorry am I to say, and many of my London readers who see this may be surprised to hear, that the proportion of Newcastle salmon is very small indeed. I believe that the manufacturers have much injured the Newcastle fishers—nay, it is more than matter of belief they must have injured them. It is impossible that such immense quantities of all sorts of chemical compounds should mingle with the waters of any rivers without poisoning its inhabitants. When these manufacturers were fewer, where now their noxious streams come in their full force, I remember seeing salmon caught of the weight of 40 pounds, and I read the other day of a salmon caught in the Tyne in 1760, that weighed 54 lbs. but where will any fisherman show me, the like caught within reach of the noise, and steam, and refuse, of these fish-destroying establishments? Why do they not consume their refuse, instead of throwing it into their river? Even the gas manufacturers have been compelled to do this in several places, and I believe Mr. Glynn (who has lighted Berwick with gas since I have been there, and shown great ability in doing so,) has also found means to have the gas water steamed off, or dried up, instead of giving it even the chance of poisoning one of the most valuable fish we have. Why should this chance be allowed in the Tyne, which was once the great source and mart for salmon. Reader, thou mayest well pardon this digression, for it is to the interest of every one of us that we should not wilfully destroy one of the best articles of food that Providence has sent us. Salmon was not so scarce in the Tyne as it is now, when it was common to stipulate in the indentures of Newcastle apprentices that they should be fed on salmon so many days in the week. This was actually the case in former times, and there is no apparent reason for the stipulation, but the cheapness and plentiful supply of the article.—*Newcastle Magazine*.

DEATHS.

At Edinburgh, on the 9th of April, Mrs. Hope, wife of James Hope, Esq. W. S.

At the Abbey of Luce, on the 21st of March, the Rev. Wm. Learmont, 49 years minister of the Gospel at Old Luce.

At his father's house, on the 2d of April, aged 7 years, James, third son of Mr. Dunham, East Mavers, Kincardineshire.

* It is thought that the eruption of the volcanic matter from the crater is occasioned by the operation of steam in the cavity below.

ASIATIC DEPARTMENT.

—25—

John Bull's Last Gasp.

JOHN BULL is at length reduced to the necessity of writing pages to prove what no one ever doubted, that the Governor General has the power to send any Englishman who may offend him, out of the country. We never denied this, but we contended *first* that this power was not originally granted for the punishment of offences through the Press, and that it has no more to do with a Libeller than it has with a Robber or a Murderer; *secondly*, that it is a power for the due exercise of which the Governor General is responsible to the Tribunals of his Country as well as to Public Opinion; and *thirdly*, that it is not an arbitrary and unlimited power, but one defined by and amenable to the Law. These positions have been proved over and over again, yet we shall annex to this a Copy of our own individual License, which will show that there is a limit set, even in that document, to the offences for which a man may have his License withdrawn. But we shall follow the BULL through all his windings, and leave him no hole to creep through.

In his Dissertation of yesterday we recognize all his characteristics, but his power of *garbling* shines most conspicuously. We shall fix this charge on him distinctly. He says:

"We have now before us the whole of the JOURNALIST's arguments on the subject, and we shall reply to them all, and refute them all *seriatim*. His proposition is as follows: A Free Press has been established in Calcutta, that is a Press "unfettered by any other restraint than the Laws" (meaning thereby the Law of the Supreme Court for Libel.) We deny the proposition."

This is a misstatement. We never laid down any such proposition. We said this:—"We believe that Lord Hastings is now as desirous as any individual in India that the Press should remain unfettered by any other Restrictions than the Law made for all." The blasphemy that Algernon Sydney extracted from the Bible as an illustration of the garbling employed against him, was not a more grossly striking instance than that which we have now submitted to our readers.

While there is even a possibility of the monstrous doctrine of Transmission, as maintained by JOHN BULL with all the zeal and extravagance of his predecessor, starting from its sleep to attack the Press, we cannot think its freedom established on a secure basis. This monster is the LEX with which JOHN BULL filly crowns his precious Dissertation. But if our comments on the solidity of that doctrine be just, if we be faithful expositors both of Law and Public Opinion on that grand question, we shall have done a great good in urging on Legislative decision which shall dispel all doubt, so that men shall at last be unanimous in acknowledging that the Press is free or enslaved. If Calcutta were to be polled upon that subject, it is needless to say on what side JOHN BULL's vote would be found. The only "LIBERTY" that would content him would be a "LICENSE" to the Governor General to banish men without trial; in short, that singular kind of Charter described by his *Millenary Correspondent*, a *carte blanche*. Yes, it is he that means License, whatever cry he sets up, whether of reverence for Law, or contempt for the "winged words" of that ONE MAN on whom, by his own confession, the state of the Press depends. If we mean License, why do we never cease to pray for the restraints of Law—not the law of Constantinople, but the Law of our beloved country—why do we ask for the rearing and preservation, not for the destruction, of judicial safeguards? Let the judgement of Solomon be applied to decide the controversy. Let the child "License" be produced, and the sword of Justice be uplifted over its devoted body. We do not interpose for its protection: we exclaim. Let the sword fall! Fiat justitia—but JOHN BULL and his abettors acknowledge it to be their child, by their more than paternal anxiety for its existence.

JOHN BULL says that we "inadvertently acknowledge the Restrictions," meaning that we acknowledge their validity, because we said that the letter containing the Restrictions did not allude to Transmission. If the mere mention of a thing amounts to an

"acknowledgment" of it, we might prove that JOHN BULL is a Turk, in fact as well as in principles. The validity of the Restrictions is a question of Law, on which we have the highest professional authority to guide and support us; and to see JOHN BULL opposed to such authority is not one of the least amusements afforded by him. For shall JOHN BULL,

"Who knows of law nor text nor margin,
Call FERGUSON his brother Sergeant."

When he assures us that, being in the Company's Service, he is not free to criticize the acts of Government, we concede the point without any hesitation. We doubt not that his name-sake in London is no more free than he is himself. Did any person, indeed, as he truly observes, ever witness Mr. Featherest, with offices, possessions, and expectancies, set up "a place of independence," and claim a right to take his masters and his patrons to task?

He then displays the magic scroll, the Indenture, as his Predecessor did some twelve months ago, and flatters himself that in it he finds words of power to exclude every particle of responsibility on the part of a Governor General when sued by a transported individual; and having so begged the question, he "conceives it unnecessary to reply to the second head in the JOURNAL of Saturday last, respecting the legality of the Rules and Regulations for the guidance of the Press?" He said that a just forfeiture of Licence would result from the violation of some of those legal "Rules and Regulations" to which by the 39th section of the act of 53d George III. all persons who proceed to the East Indies shall be subject. JOHN BULL says there is no occasion to distinguish between legality and illegality: a Rule is a Rule, and an Order is an Order; and to demur, or remonstrate, is to insult and defy Government, which, being duly recorded in the Resolutions of Government, the peasant individual may be justly and lawfully transmitted, "the Governor General being a much better judge than he (the Transmitter) can be, of the subjects that are calculated to prove mischievous in the country." All this delectable, judicious, sound, and non-lentious doctrine, JOHN BULL had already expounded and enforced in the memorable BOLTS Controversy. For further information on the subject of the responsibility of a Governor General to Twelve Common Tradesmen of London, we refer him to the 123d section of the act 53d Geo. III. which requires the plaintiff to prove that he was "duly possessed of a License," and unduly deprived of it. If the question to be referred to the Jury did not turn on the sufficiency of the grounds on which the plaintiff was deprived of his License, if it did not comprehend the whole matter of the offence imputed to him, this section of the act would be vain and absurd.

Our third head he meets with equal force and fairness. "The third head," says he, "which the Journalist says we have not noticed, has nothing whatever to do with the question under discussion!" The enormous inconsistency of a Government having the power of controlling the Press in the hands of the governing Europeans, when it is left absolutely free to publish the complaints and representations of the subject Natives, is, says JOHN BULL, a matter quite foreign to the discussion! so manifest is it that there is no argument so pertinent that he will not evade, and no inconsistency so great that he will not embrace, rather than renounce his pernicious and anti-Anglican heresies.

His reasons for shrinking from that part of the discussion which shews that the Press is free to the subject million even if it be fettered to the ruling few, it is not difficult to divine, because he must know that with most persons this numerical preponderance would be sufficient to justify the expression of a "Free Press." He now, however, passes over all the Native Productions, and confines himself to the Five Editors of English Papers; the GOVERNMENT GAZETTE, INDIA GAZETTE, JOHN BULL, HURKARU, and JOURNAL. The Editors of the three first, being in the Company's Service, may, (for aught we know) be subject to ANY Order, or Circular, that Government may issue, on pain of dismissal from the Service; though, if this be the case, it must be a slavish Service indeed, for even the Navy and Army have limits set to the obedience exacted in them,

which is due only to *lawful* orders, and resistance to *unlawful* ones cannot legally be punished. We do not know what may be the footing on which Editors in the Company's Service may feel themselves; but we know that those who are *not* in that Service, are in justice amenable to the Law *ONLY* for their offences.—There was once a Censorship imposed on the Press by an act of the Governor General in Council, and we have the authority of one of the most eminent Lawyers in India for saying that this was *ILLEGAL*. There were certain Restrictions substituted for this Censorship when it was removed; and since these were never passed thro' the Supreme Court, as all Regulations must be, to have the force of Law within its jurisdiction, we say, that these also were for the same reason *ILLEGAL*. There was a time when we did not know this fact—of the necessity of the Court's concurrence to give any Regulation the power of Law;—but, knowing this, as we do now, our opinion of the force or legality of any Regulation not having obtained that sanction must of course change. It is altogether a question of fact, depending on information and evidence, and is therefore necessarily dependent on the nature and degree of such evidence, so that opinion on such a question may change entirely, without involving any inconsistency whatever.

It is said by JOHN BULL that ANY Order of the Governor General in Council must be obeyed, at the peril of the individual to whom it is issued; and that in case of refusal to comply, the person resisting may be sent out of the country. If this be so, any Governor General who admired the old feudal privileges, might issue an order commanding all persons about to be married to yield up to him the enjoyment exacted by the lords of those days on similar occasions; and in the event of refusal, both parties might, according to this doctrine, be sent out of the country. But would this be legal? We have put a similar question to JOHN BULL a dozen times, but either he does not understand it, or cannot answer it. The object of putting an extreme case is to shew that there must be a *limit* to the exercise of such a power: that limit JOHN BULL says, is merely the *will* of the Governor General, who might order *what he pleased*, and those who refused to obey him would do so at their peril. That limit, we say, is the *Law*,—to which the highest Individuals in England are as subject as the lowest,—and from a responsibility to which no man is exempt, wherever the British flag waves, or British Courts of Judicature are known. If JOHN BULL's position were established, that the Governor General in Council might extort from any man, by threats of a punishment usually ranked next to death, the surrender of his rights, his property, his liberty, and all that made life valuable,—then he would indeed be little better than a “highwayman” (we use JOHN BULL's own expression) if he exercised such a power: for this is done on Hounslow Heath often enough, and was once attempted near the Government House in Calcutta, but we would not insult the Government as JOHN BULL has done, by supposing it could take place actually within the Council Chamber.

JOHN BULL conceives it extravagant and inconsistent to say that persons residing in India with a License, may do as they please, being amenable only to the Law for their offences. “All this,” says he “appears to us so exceedingly ridiculous, that we confess we find some difficulty in persuading ourselves that any man in his sober senses, could seriously advance it.” That a mind so crooked as JOHN BULL's should deem that ridiculous which other persons would hold to be reasonable, is not at all a subject of wonder to us. But we ask the community at large, —What has a Supreme Court of Judicature to do in Calcutta, if the *will* of the Governor General is the *only* Law known? If Messrs. Palmer and Co. have a dispute with the Marine Board about a Contract for Tonnage or Freight for Government Stores, will they permit the *will* of the Governor General in Council to decide it, or will they not prefer suing the said Government in the Supreme Court? If the Collector of Government Customs were to seize the goods of Messrs. Alexander and Co. on insufficient grounds, would they permit the *will* of the Governor General in Council to confirm such seizure for the benefit of their “Honorable Masters,” or would they

not rather seek redress before the Judges of the Supreme Court? Now there is no more virtue in Ships and Cotton-Screws to grant privileges, than there is in “boxes of types,” (which JOHN BULL thinks so meanly of though he draws a handsome salary from misusing them) to exempt men from. We say that all men, Governors General, Members of Council, Secretaries, Merchants, and Editors, are equally subject to the *Law*, and that neither of them can infringe it with impunity, or without responsibility, any more than another.

If they could indeed, and the will of the Governor General, either in Council, or out of Council, could set all Law aside, the Supreme Court would be worse than useless, and the sooner it were shut up the better. But what is the Governor General's own opinion on the subject? He, like a true Englishman, thinks the Law should be paramount to any man's will. When the Chief Justice asked him to redress his supposed wrongs, he referred him to that Tribunal which was open to all. When he himself was labelled in the Letter of EMULUS, altho' the writer of that Letter was doubly amenable to his own authority, both as Governor General and as Commander in Chief, he still went into Court for redress. When the Secretaries were offended at being supposed to shew favor in their duties, where did he refer them for satisfaction? To the Supreme Court. Yet, if the Governor General had held that in this country his *will* ought to be the *only* Law known, he might have ordered any punishment he thought proper, without going into Court at all:—or, having gone there, might direct the Judges to dispense with evidence except on one side only, and command the Jury to find the offending Editor Guilty, whether they thought him Innocent or not. He might have insisted indeed on their altering their verdict after they had pronounced it, and have sent every one of the Jurymen out of the country for their pains, if it be true that he may issue *any* order whatever, and that those who refuse obedience must do so at their peril!—So, we repeat, may a “highwayman” (still using JOHN BULL's own phrase) when he has an unarmed individual in his power, command him to give up whatever he pleases, and tell him, if he hesitates, that it will be at his peril: but, in either case, whoever surrendered rights or entered into engagements of any kind, under such threats, could not be held to be bound by such acts; and whoever extorted such surrender of rights by such means, would be guilty of illegal conduct, and be held answerable to the Law for the abuse of his power, in the same manner as a private individual who is lawfully employed to shoot any man breaking into his house, would have to take his trial for murder, if he were to abuse that power by shooting a person lawfully and honestly employed.

To minds less obtuse than that of JOHN BULL, all these remarks will shew that there can be no such thing under the English Government, whether at home or abroad, as irresponsible and unlimited power, enabling any individual to do as he pleases; for such a power would render all Laws useless, and make the violation of men's wives, the spoliation of property, and even the taking away their lives as innocent as the most virtuous deed;—where there is no Law there can be no crime, and where any one individual or a collective body are *above* the Law, nothing that they can do, however abominable, can be wrong! We say, that such a state of things cannot exist; and the general conduct of this Government (notwithstanding the little aberrations into which they have been occasionally seduced) shews as distinctly as can be, that *they* do not hold themselves *above* the Laws, but shew as much respect to the authority of the Supreme Court as they exact from others. Even JOHN BULL himself, whose friendly and anxious interest in the fate of the JOURNALIST induced him to attend the whole of the long day in which the Criminal Information was argued before the Bench, then bowed to its learned and no doubt just decision against the said Journalist, and thereby shewed his respect for the Court and its decrees,—though he was not, we believe, among the applauding multitude who hailed the same JOURNALIST's acquittal with cheers, when the Secretaries were so memorably defeated. He “reverences Law”—as he has told us,—but it is only perhaps when it punishes the friends of a Free Press:—in all other cases,

he reverences the "discretion of one man" as much superior; and when the Law will not inflict the punishment he desires, he hopes that the "arbitrium" which he sets above it, will supply this great desideratum in the Social-Order Code. If JOHN BULL should himself ever commit a Civil or Military offence, it would be time thrown away to give him the benefit of a hearing by Counsel, or a Trial by Court Martial; and yet we can easily believe that if he were dismissed from his Professorship for alleged ignorance, or from the Army for alleged incapacity, or from his Editorship for maintaining doctrines of which a *true* JOHN BULL would be ashamed, he would think himself unjustly treated in not being allowed a hearing or defence; but if to this were added a visit from the Town Major, with sepoys under fixed bayonets, to seize and conduct him on board Ship *because* he was no longer either Professor, Officer, or Editor, and *therefore* had no License to remain in the country, (however unjustly all these honours might have been torn from him), we think he would be of our opinion that Law is better than Discretion, and that if the Supreme Court could not redress a grievance because the dispute happened to be between an individual and Government, the sooner it was removed the better. But happily this is not the case: and JOHN BULL knows that in his own pages even, within the last month only, so that he cannot well have forgotten it, the names of the MARQUIS OF HASTINGS, the Members of Council, and the Lord Bishop of Calcutta, were all included in a proceeding, which came in a preliminary stage before that Tribunal, though if Laws were to be superseded by the mere will of the Governor General, the Supreme Court could not have possibly entertained such a proceeding, without assuming powers altogether beyond its jurisdiction.

JOHN BULL has reserved for his last charge what he thinks is to serve as a powerful broadside, and to sink us at once. But we shall rise above it more buoyant than ever. He gives the following as the Copy of the Indenture, by which *all* persons coming to India with a Licence are bound, and he thinks that this must set the question at rest for ever. The following is his version of this Instrument.

"Now this Indenture Witnesseth, and the said A. B. for himself, his Heirs, Executors, and Administrators, doth by these Presents covenant, promise, and agree, to and with the said United Company in the manner following; that is to say, that he said A. B. for and during, and unto the full end and expiration of—years, shall and will behave and conduct himself from time to time, and in all respects conformably to the RULES, ORDERS, and DIRECTIONS of the said United Company, or of the PRESIDENT IN COUNCIL of their Settlement aforesaid, or of any of their Presidencies or Settlements in India—PROVIDED ALWAYS, and it is hereby expressly covenanted, declared and agreed between the Parties, and it is the true intent and meaning thereof, That in case the said A. B. shall make default in any of the Covenants hereinbefore contained, or shall during the said term of—years, receive notice from the said Company's President in Council of any of their Settlements aforesaid, to quit the said Settlement and return to England, for any misbehaviour by him the said A. B. done or committed towards the said Company, or concerning the peace and good order of the said Settlement, that then, and in either of the said cases, he the said A. B. shall not, nor will, upon any account or pretence whatsoever, stay, or continue longer in the East Indies than for the space of—months after receiving such notice, and that from and immediately after the expiration of the said—months, it shall and may be lawful for the said Company's President and Council, at the said Settlement, or any other Presidency or Settlement to cause the said A. B. and his Family to be put on board any Ship employed by the said Company, for the purpose of being transported to Great Britain, at the said Company's Expence, and in case of refusal on the part of the said A. B. to cause the said A. B. to be apprehended and put on Board such Ship, together with his Family."

"We beg our readers (continues JOHN BULL) to consider well, the spirit and letter of the above Document, and after having done so, to read and consider well, the spirit and letter of the daily dissertations for the last three years in the *Calcutta Journal* on the rights of British Subjects residing in India on a Licence;—on their right to establish FREE PRESS, and to hold themselves accountable, not to the Governor General, as they agreed and bound themselves to do in a solemn Bond;—but to the Supreme Court of Judicature! This conduct speaks for itself, and requires no observations on our part."

From what musty records JOHN BULL procured this Copy of the Indenture, which is to sell all men into Slavery, we know

not;—but we can safely say that we have never signed any such a Deed. We shall not stop to shew what every man except JOHN BULL must know, that there are such things as illegal Instruments, illegal from the mere fact of their containing conditions contrary to Law. Such would be any Bond by which a man for any given privilege should sell himself in Slavery to another in England;—a man might sign away his right of life to another on parchment, as well as right of liberty, but such a parchment would not be worth a straw, any more than a paper signed by one man giving another the power of imprisoning him whenever he thought proper:—all such acts would be null and void from their positive illegality, and so we believe the Court of King's Bench would hold such an Instrument as that of JOHN BULL's pretended Indenture to be:—as much as any Act of Parliament that should contain any thing contrary to Magna Charta and the Law of the Land, would of itself be null and void from its mere illegality. We shall not stop to discuss points so far above JOHN BULL's comprehension; but merely reprint the provisions contained in our own Indenture, the Original of which is in the Office of Mr. Poe, the Honourable Company's Solicitor, and of course as accessible to JOHN BULL as any other Document to be found in the public offices of Government, if he should doubt its accuracy. The following are the conditions there set forth:

"Provided always, and these Presents are upon this express condition, that in case of Breach or Non-observance of any of the PROVISIONS, RESTRICTIONS, COVENANTS, or AGREEMENTS, subject to which this License is granted, on the part of the said J. S. Buckingham to be observed and performed, then and from thenceforth the License hereby granted shall be and become absolutely null and void, and of no Force or Effect whatsoever, and the said J. S. Buckingham shall be deemed and taken to be a Person residing and being in the *East-Indies* without any License or Authority for that Purpose. And the said J. S. Buckingham for himself, his Heirs, Executors, and Administrators, doth hereby covenant, promise, and agree with, and to the said United Company, in Manner and Form following, that is to say. (First.) That he the said J. S. Buckingham from the Time of his Arrival at either of the Presidencies of the said United Company in the *East Indies*, shall and will behave and conduct himself, from Time to Time, and in all Respects, conformably to all such RULES AND REGULATIONS as now are, or hereafter may be in Force, at such Presidency, or at any other Presidency in the *East Indies*, where he the said J. S. B. may happen to be, and which shall be applicable to him or his Conduct, and which he ought to obey, observe and conform to. (Secondly.) That he the said J. S. B. shall not nor will, by himself, or in Partnership with any other Person or Persons, or by the Agency of any other Person or Persons, either as Principal, Factor, or Agent, directly or indirectly engage, carry on, or be concerned in any Trade, Bank, Dealings, or Transactions whatsoever, CONTRARY TO LAW. (Thirdly.) And that, in case the said J. S. B. shall be guilty of any Violence, Oppression, or Wrong, to any Person or Persons, not being an European-born Subject, or European-born Subjects of His Majesty, His Heirs, or Successors, or shall commit any Offence against any King, Prince, Government, State, or Nation, within the Limits of the said Company's Charter, or shall be charged with any such Violence, Oppression, Wrong, or Offence, then, and in such Case, the said J. S. B. shall and will submit himself therein, in all Things, to the Decision of the said United Company, or their Court of Directors, or of the Governor-General or Governor in Council, or Chief Officers of any of the Presidencies, Settlements, or Factories of the said Company, if they, or any of them, shall see fit to interfere therein; and that he, the said J. S. B. his Executors or Administrators, shall and will pay, and make good all such Sum and Sums of Money, and do and perform all such Acts, Matters, and Things whatsoever, as a Reparation of the Injury which he shall have occasioned, or the Offence he shall have given, as he shall be required by any such Decision to pay, make good, do, or perform; and in Failure thereof, it shall be lawful to and for the said Company,

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or their Court of Directors, or any of their Agents, to pay, or cause the same to be paid, made good, done, and performed, and therenpon the said J. S. B. his Executors, or Administrators, shall and will reimburse to the said Company, their Successors or Assigns, all such Sum or Sums of Money as shall be so paid, and all Costs, Charges, and Expences, which may be incurred thereby. (Fourthly.) And that, before he the said J. S. B. shall return to Europe, or remove from, quit, or leave the *East-Indies*, he, the said J. S. B. shall and will pay and satisfy, and perform all such Debts, Sums of Money, Duties, and Engagements, as he shall owe or be liable to perform to the said Company, or any Person or Persons not being an European-born Subject or European-born Subjects of His Majesty, His Heirs, or Successors, or for any Injury or Offence he may have done or committed, as herein-before mentioned; and that, in case of any Breach of this Covenant, he, the said J. S. B. shall and will pay unto the said Company and their Successors, for the Damages in respect of the Breach thereof, such Sum of Money as he shall have owed, and which he shall have omitted to pay, as herein-before mentioned, or such Sum of Money as shall be equal to the Damage actually sustained by any Person or Persons, by Breach or Non-performance of any Duty or Engagement which, under the Covenant herein-before contained, he ought to have satisfied or performed, before such Return or Removal, to the End that the said Company, if they shall see fit, may pay over such Damages to the Creditor or Creditors, or injured Party or Parties, for his, her or their own Benefit, or may apply them for any other Purpose, or keep them from the Use of the said Company, their Successors or Assigns. In WITNESS whereof, to one part of these Indentures, the said United Company have caused their common Seal to be affixed, and to the other Part thereof the said J. S. Buckingham has set his Hand and Seal, the Day and Year above written."

We say, with JOHN BULL,—Let our Readers consider well the letter and spirit of the above Document, and compare it with that given as the pretended Indenture by JOHN BULL. There is no resemblance between them, and there is not a word to be found in our own, which talks of Transportation, or seizure of Family to be put on board Ship like so many Convicts, at the mere will and pleasure of any man. We have bound ourselves to act conformably to all RULES and REGULATIONS, (there is not a word about orders, or directions, or circulars,) and we have shewn, what is not denied, that there is no Rule or Regulation for restraining the Press. We have asked JOHN BULL to name the chapter, section, and number of it, if there is:—but he makes no answer, he knows there is none; and moreover that there can be none without the sanction of that very "Supreme Court of Judicature!" after which he puts a note of admiration, as if it were perfectly contemptible when placed beside the mere will of the Governor General: such is his "reverence for Law!" The Document goes on to shew that we engage to be guilty of no violence, oppression, wrong, or offence, towards those who are not British-born (of which we believe no one will accuse us), and it prohibits us from carrying on any Transactions whatsoever, CONTRARY TO LAW.—The whole spirit and intent of the Document is to exact from us an observance of the RULES and REGULATIONS of the Local Government of such Presidency, as might become our place of residence, which must be made conformable to Law, and among which no Restrictions on the Press are to be found; to secure the Natives from violence and wrong; and to enforce the just payment of our lawful debts. All this is so reasonable, that we should never object to pledge ourselves to the complete fulfilment of it: but it exacts no surrender of any one lawful right, and does not contain even an allusion to forcible seizure and banishment for exercising the lawful privilege of free publication, any more than it alludes to the punishment of the guillotine for being seen on the Course before sun-set; and as far as this Indenture is concerned, it would be as easy to prove the one from it as the other.

JOHN BULL begins his article with misrepresentation, in insinuating that we wish for Licentiousness when we ask for Liberty; and ends by *disingenuousness*, in giving a portion of an old Letter of ours in 1819, admitting the validity of the Restrictions, before

we knew that they had no legal force, and before the very act of Lord Hastings, on which we have all along grounded our belief of his intention to abolish them! We do not know any thing that JOHN BULL has done which is more palpably unfair than this. But it must defeat its own end, for no one can be so shallow (always excepting himself) as not to see that we might very well have supposed such Restrictions to have been in full force before Lord Hastings's celebrated Speech in reply to the Madras Address; though after that Speech it was impossible for any one who believed his Lordship's heart to be in unison with his tongue to suppose them of any value whatever. We were of the number of those who believed, and gave the noble Lord full credit for sincerity. JOHN BULL was not of that number; our opinions therefore may well differ. Which of us does the noble Marquis most justice, the world will decide; but any writer who professed to argue the matter fairly, ought to have stated why this change of sentiment regarding the Restrictions took place, for if this had been done there would have been no appearance even of inconsistency. Fairness of argument was not, however, the object in view; but thank God, the Press is free enough yet to expose such disingenuousness, and to make the weapons aimed at us, recoil with tenfold force on the head of our assailant.

What more then need we say to JOHN BULL? Will he go on day after day telling us of Restrictions which are nowhere to be found in the lawful Regulations of Government? Will he go on to set the will of the Governor General as above all Law, when every day's Proceedings in the Supreme Court ought to convince him that within its jurisdiction no power can set aside its decisions or contemn its authority? And above all, will he continue to contend for the validity and force of certain Orders of Government, which he, as a Servant of that Government, is breaking through the very first article of, whenever he ventures to discuss this very measure of their administration? He may do so:—because he is in the state of the blind led by the blind; but the fate of himself, and those who *mislead* him, will assuredly be that of the persons to whom we compare them.

Shipping Arrivals.

CALCUTTA.				
Date	Names of Vessels	Flags	Commanders	From Whence Left
Sept. 2	ZELIE	French	Travers	Bourbon July 20

Stations of Vessels in the River.

CALCUTTA, SEPTEMBER 1, 1822.

Kedgeree.—JAMES SCOTT, proceeded down.

New Anchorage.—H. C. Ships ASIA, —DUCHESS OF ATHOLL, and ST. THIAGO MAIOR, (P.) sailed for China.

Sauger.—ARGYLL, gone to Sea, —MARY (Boyd), and JOHN MUNRO, outward-bound, remain, —EAST INDIAN, JOHN BULL, ERNEST, GEORGE (bark), MINERVA (brig), SULLY (P.), and FLORIDA (Amred.), at the Reef Buoy on the 31st ultimo, outward-bound, remain.

The ZELIE spoke off Ceylon the Ship GEORGE THE FOURTH from England, bound to Calcutta.

Administrations to Estates.

Mr. William Dring, late of Calcutta, deceased—Mr. Robert J. Dring.

Mrs. Mary Wilson, late of Colostollah, deceased—Mr. John Gomes.

Mr. Robert Lister, late of Entally, deceased—Mrs. Ellen Lister.

Mr. James Macfie, late Seeadah, in the 24 Pergunnahs, Mariner. Mrs. Betsey Macfie.

Captain Charles Court, late of Calcutta, Marine Surveyor, deceased—Mr. James Court.

Captain George Lindsay, late of the Engineers, deceased—David Clark, Esq.

Marriage.

At Bombay, on the 27th of July, at St. Thomas's Church, by the Reverend H. DAVIES, Mr. JOLIFFE, to Miss F. KENNEDY.

ASIATIC DEPARTMENT.

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John Bull.

JOHN BULL, CAUGHT TRIPPING.

SIR,

To the Editor of the Journal.

If JOHN BULL can blunder in translating a Persian word he ought to shut up shop, for if he is not an Orientalist he is nothing! As the Mahomedans divide mankind into two classes, believers and infidels, it is manifest that *Tursa* cannot be translated *Infidel*, because it is contradistinguished from *Gubre* who is also an infidel, and would be included under the Term *Tursa* if its meaning were so comprehensive. SAADEE uses two words significant of specific differences, and JOHN BULL translates one of them by the generic term, of which they are, in the very text quoted, obviously subdivisions; the one denoting a fireworshipper, the other a Christian.

On turning to GILCHRIST's Dictionary, I find the following confirmation of JOHN BULL's "inferiority in education," viz. "CHRISTIAN, P. *Tursa, Murehee.*"

Q. E. D.

John Bull.

A NATIVE GENTLEMAN'S OPINION OF JOHN BULL'S LEARNING AND CANDOUR.

SIR,

To the Editor of the Journal.

In the JOHN BULL of yesterday (August 31st), the Editor accuses the Proprietor of the Persian Newspaper (the MIRATOOL UKHBAR) of having "regularly applied" the term "Tursa" to designate his countrymen, as a mark of disrespect to them. I felt indeed surprised and shocked at this groundless, illiberal, and hurtful charge of the Editor, in a Public Paper.

I say GROUNDEDLESS, for several reasons; the First, that in all the Numbers of this Persian Paper, which amount to 21, the Persian words signifying Christians are found used 23 times, among which the term "Tursa" is only twice mentioned, and that in Number 20th, on two particular occasions; one is, that the Proprietor having received from a friend an article of news, respecting the downfall of a lofty house at Patna, situated near the Burying-ground of the "Tursas," gave it insertion as he found it in his writing, being thoroughly convinced of the accuracy of the expression; and the other is, that in speaking of the two country-born Portuguese, who are said to have used cruelty to a Native, the term "Tursa" is once more thus used in that day's Paper, "an Tursayan khodana Turs," for the beauty of construction, from the repetition of a single word "Turs" bearing two meanings, something similar to this phrase in English "those Christians of unchristian-like conduct." Now the Public may judge, whether a single repetition of the term "Tursa" out of twenty-three instances, can justify the Editor in saying, that the word *Tursa* is "regularly applied" to the countrymen of JOHN BULL.

Secondly, that the word "Tursa" does not signify Infidels, but according to the general usage of the word, it means Christians, without conveying any more disrespect to the minds of Moosulmans than the very term "Christians." To convince the Public of the misrepresentation of the term by JOHN BULL, I quote the "Boorhan Qatim," the standard Dictionary of the Persian language, which was sometime ago printed by the late Capt. Roebuck, with the assistance of the principal Officers of the College of Fort William, (page 236,) after giving the meanings derivable from the root; to wit, "fearer, fearful, fancy-sick," the author says, "it also signifies Christians and worshippers of fire," without confining the application to a degraded sense. SONAANH, esteemed as the first Arabic Dictionary, with Persian explanations, immediately after the word *Nassare*, Christians, says "Tunusgar Tarsashoodun, to become a Christian—Tunseer Tursagardaneedun, to make one a Christian."

The verses of Saadee, quoted by the Editor, illustrate the subject beyond doubt, "Who out of thy hidden treasures affordest daily sustenance to the "Gubre" or Magians, and to the

"Tursa" or Christians, both of whom are equally by Mahomedans considered as enemies of God.

The Editor of the JOHN BULL leaves the word *Gubre* in the foregoing verse, untranslated; in the event of his translating *Gubre* into English, the line would have thus stood "the Magians and the Infidels" which would bear the construction that Magians are not included among Infidels, contrary to the Mahomedan creed professed by Sadee.

Thirdly, Persian Poets and Historians, such as Hafiz and others, invariably use "Tursa" for Christians, without manifesting any other disrespect than what they universally wish to shew to Christians—Thus Hafiz.

"Een hudeesun-chi khooshamnd ki suhurguh me gooft;
"Bar dur i may k udue ba duf, o my Tursa!"

"How pleasant to me was the sentence which a Tursa uttered in the morning at the door of a wine-cellar, with a small drum and flute in his hand."

Again Shums Tabreez says:—

"Chi tudbeor as Moosulmanan kieemun khoodran nu mee, danum Nu Tursa nu Yehoodie um-nu Gubur-um, nu Moosulman-um."

"What remedy, O Moosulmans; since I do not know myself. I am neither a Christian (Tursa) nor a Jew, nor a Gubre (Magian) nor a Moosulman."

I say that his charge is ILIBERAL; for, since the Proprietor of the MIRATOOL UKHBAR had the honor of knowing personally the Editor of the JOHN BULL, and a great many of his friends and acquaintances have been in the habit of seeing that gentleman, it is presumed that when he first saw the term "Tursa" used in the Persian Paper, which he supposes synonymous with "Infidel," common liberality ought to have suggested to him to caution the Proprietor of the Persian Paper, either directly or through some of his friends, against the use of such a term. But I am sorry to observe, that instead of this charitable act, the Editor accuses him of insolence, in the most conspicuous part of his Paper, in a manner calculated to prejudice the whole European community against him, both as it respects his religious principles, and his ignorance of the rules of common decency.

I say that his charge is HURTFUL; for, the Proprietor of this Persian Paper, to the best of his recollection, never willfully used a harsh term during his life, even to the meanest individual. How must his feelings then be hurt, when he finds himself thus charged in a Public Paper with the application of an abusive term to a body of men for whom he always has professed regard, respect, and love, on account of their superiority in domestic and political concerns, and in scientific and literary acquirements,—by an Editor who is celebrated among that body for his knowledge of the Persian language, and consequently whose opinions respecting Oriental subjects will be much regarded BY THEM!

I do not wonder at the mistake which the Translator for the HURKARU made in his translation, when I find that the Editor of the JOHN BULL half translated the Persian line "Gubre and Tursa" as Gubre and Infidels, leaving the other half as untranslated.

Finally, the Proprietor of the MIRATOOL UKHBAR appeals to the judgment of those who have read the 21 Nos. of that Paper now before the Public, whether he has abstained from bestowing on the English nation that praise which they deserve, although without compromising his own character by adulation.

The Editor of JOHN BULL, concludes with the following remark, in a triumphant tone. "It (the word *Tursa*) cannot be respectfully employ to our countrymen in India however low their condition may be!" But JOHN BULL should know that there are countries where neither the Conductor of an English nor of a Persian Paper would feel himself at liberty to use disrespectful or insolent expressions towards persons of any faith or complexion, of whatever country they might be, in violation of the rules of politeness, and of that courtesy and liberality which are reciprocally due from persons of all creeds and climes.

THE PROPRIETOR OF
THE MIRATOOL UKHBAR.

* Vide Boorhan Qatim page 772; Gubre, the worshippers of fire.

Late Discussions.*To the Editor of the Journal.*

Sir,

I have watched the progress of your Discussion on Transmission with your shifting Antagonist JOHN BULL, and cannot resist the temptation to say a word or two on it, as a flying Bird of Passage.

I don't remember that you ever denied the existence of the Restrictions, of which he talks so much; but you said that he who alone could hold out the imminent menace by which alone they can be enforced, gave a personal construction to those Restrictions on a great public occasion, which went to the utmost limit that you or any free and honest Englishman could desire. Is this true or not true? Why was it evaded in the discussion by JOHN BULL, who now, when convicted of disingenuousness of argument, and forced to plead, admits that the Governor General alone can enslave the Press by virtue of his power of intimidating European-born Editors? Has not Lord Hastings been praised? is he not so in England at the India House, in Parliament, (see Lambton's motion), for setting the Press free? Has he not admitted the fact, and taken the credit it deserved? When he has seemed to waver since, you have always regretted it, but never attributed it to himself, or to his changed opinion, and you may have better reasons than many are aware of, for testifying, (perhaps too warmly, but that he is going where he can do neither harm nor good to you) the gratitude you feel as a public Editor and private Individual.

Did you ever deny the absolute power given by the Act Why the prostrate condition of all English born persons in India, under the present constitution of this colony? On the contrary, is not your whole argument founded on it? You say, that the power of Transmission is so sweeping and overwhelming, that it may be applied to all and every thing which the caprice of absolute power may consider offensive to pride, or affect to believe injurious; and you instanced a man who might be considered as litigious, troublesome, and disrespectful, if he brought actions against Government in the King's Court, for customs, duties, interference with his trade, &c. &c.

What you did say was, that the Government could legally use that power in the first instance for any possible past offence; but could not legally use it before-hand to intimidate a man out of rights or property, or compel him to submit to Censorship or Restrictions.—No doubt force must be yielded to, or why surrender to a highwayman? That will always be a question of prudence. But Dr. MacLean was transmitted for refusing to declare himself a liar and scoundrel, for having inserted a true story of his Brother's injuries, and for refusing to apologize for the same. Yet this most shocking and flagrant oppression was legal, and is exactly what JOHN BULL justifies, and thinks quite reasonable and necessary.

You did say that no Law existed to restrain the Press, and that this was effected not by open or manly legislative Act of Parliament, as it should be, if it is to be done at all, (unless honor and openness are vices in Parliaments and nations, but virtues only in private men), but indirectly, by threatenings of violence. Whatever rights are not prohibited by Law to Englishmen, they bring with them under the King's Court and Flag; nothing in a Covenant can be binding that is contrary to Law; to propose or execute such an Instrument would be a misdemeanour in Law, and therefore the rules and directions enjoined and promised to be obeyed, can be only lawful rule; but it is not lawful for the Court of Directors or their Delegates to take away the Freedom of the Press—Trial by Jury—Writ of Habeas Corpus—or other privileges of Englishmen not abolished by Law.

JOHN BULL drops his phrase of "Regulations," and very wisely sinks the whole argument as to European or Native, or Foreign European Press! tho' he knows that the abolition of the Censorship was hastened by practical proof of the Independence of those persons. The whole argument is then not about the Liberty of the Press, but the Liberty of the European part of the Free Press.

What signifies it who the present Editors are? the question is who they MAY be. Who they have been, we know. The names of Richemont, Da Costa, Greenway, Scott, Heatley, Walker, Taylor, White, and others you must remember well, and so does JOHN BULL.

After all, how can he pretend to give belief to the efficiency of the Restrictions, when he so grievously sins against them in entering on so tender and delicate a critical examination of the acts of Government, contrary to their 1st Article? If he is favored or permitted to touch on such things, surely you will be allowed in decency, and notwithstanding Restrictions, to reply.

One consequence perhaps, of JOHN BULL's and his friends' abhorrence of free discussion begins to appear already. The Court of Requests are putting in their claim to exemption! and truly with equal propriety. To be sure it is very disagreeable to be criticised when one is wrong or may be wrong, and to this may be traced all the animosity of so many to a Free Press, and their opinion of its unfitness for our "limited society." But what harm has it done? and what good has it not done? It may be put down, or its power checked and retarded for a time, but sooner or later it must be free. No doubt the 600 Siberian functionaries would have thought a Free Press quite shocking creating dissensions in Society, causing the violations of candor, &c.; but could they have continued so long to oppress that miserable and distant dependency of Russia if the Emperor Alexander had been earlier apprised of what was going on, by a Free Press at Tobolsk or St. Petersburg? Rather, would they have ventured to do what they did, had the terrors of such an Engine been before their eyes?

Yours in haste,

A BIRD ON THE WING.**Sherwarry Hills.***From the Madras Gazette of the 17th of August.*

The Sherwahray Hills, according to tradition, derive their name from a famous Semmasee, who flourished above 1000 years ago,—the people seldom call them by their proper name, but by one signifying the "Good Hill," "Holy Hill," &c. They are situated six miles to the north of Salem and to very bottom of them the country is in the highest state of cultivation—from the bottom to the encamping ground at the top is seven miles—the ascent is in general so easy as to permit of a person being carried up either in a ton-jon or on horseback.

The height of these Hills was very correctly taken by Captain Colles, during that gentleman's barometrical observations in 1819, by which Salem, was found to be 1070 feet above the level of the sea—and half way up the Hill.—At a village where persons go up in general to breakfast, it was found to be 1970 feet above Salem, and the encamping ground at the top 3530.—Flagstaff peak near the encampment 3785, and a Hill with a Pagoda about four miles and a half from the camp was found to be 4190: the height therefore of the encampment above the sea is.....4600

Flagstaff Peak.....	4600
Hill with Pagoda.....	5280

These Hills consist of three separate Nands—the Salem, the Mochoo, and the Mootoo Nand—the last of which is the only one now alluded to—it is the most lofty—and a perfect table land—in breadth about three miles, and in length nearly seven—on all sides of the mountain there is thick jungle to the summit—but the table land is perfectly clear and a considerable portion of it is under cultivation—the soil appears to consist of a brown vegetable mould, producing very thick short grass.—There does not seem to be any marks of swampy ground—and the water with the exception of the months of April and May is considered by the natives themselves equally wholesome with that on the plains—whether their objections to the water during these two months be well-founded or otherwise must be determined by experience.

From all sides of the table land—the eye is delighted with the most extensive and splendid scenery—and the clusters of gigantic trees, combined with the rich green of the fields of young millet, recalls to memory, what our gardens and plantations at home contain most picturesque and beautiful.

The inhabitants consist exclusively of the cast, called Vellalors—and by their account emigrated about 600 years ago from Cojeveram—their manners and mode of life are extremely simple—and their dispositions appear to be of the best kind—civil, and obliging—manifesting a strong desire to gain the good will of strangers—their life is entirely

of a pastoral description; and crimes of a heinous nature are seldom, or ever committed amongst them—their disputes are in general settled by the headman of each Naud—but when the matter in dispute is of importance—the three chiefs meet together, and having heard both parties, pass their decision, which is always final—and received with perfect submission and respect—they have never yet applied to our Courts for justice—and their females seem to be much secluded, at least it is very rarely they are seen; but from the number of children which appear they must either be very numerous or very prolific—by their own account they are a very healthy race—which is corroborated by their appearance—the only disease they dread is the small pox—which some years ago, nearly depopulated the hills—no case of the Spasmodic Cholera has ever occurred amongst them—a lame or deformed person has not been seen, and many appear to have attained an extreme old age.

The principal grains cultivated are wheat, barley, and millet—and the implements of husbandry are the same as those used on the plains—the land appears to be extremely fertile—but after the seed is put into the ground it is left to itself, no attention is paid to weeding, &c.

The sides of the mountain in particular—but also the table land at top—present the largest scope for botanical research; many of the common flowers of England are indigenous to the hills—and many rare plants and flowers, belonging to a more congenial climate.—Amongst the former, is the "Jatamansi" or Julian Spikenard—at all events a plant of that name is well known to the mountaineers, and it answers exactly the description given of it by Sir W. Jones—but the most magnificent trees to be seen on the hill are the cedar and the "Michelia Champaca" of Linnæus, the flower of which is like gold—and of so strong an aromatic scent, that bees will not light on it—of fruits none have yet been seen except the raspberry, red and white—and the "Septospermum" both of which grow in the greatest abundance.

The domestic animals are black cattle and buffaloes, the former are very numerous and much superior to those on the plains; the wild animals are elk, hog, bear, bison, and tigers have lately found their way to the encampment—as also have hyenas and jackals—but none of these animals are said to breed on the table land—jungle fowl, partridges, and quails of all kinds are numerous—the bison is by far the largest animal known in this part of India—the elephant excepted—and when hard pressed shows a considerable degree of bravery.

The climate of the Sherwahray hills is certainly not near so cold as that of the Neelgherrys; but perhaps it may be found quite cold enough—it is not intended to compare the one with the other in any respect,—they may both have advantages peculiar to themselves—and the Sherwahray hills may be found a delightful retreat during the hot months, for the European inhabitants of Trichinopoly, Vellore, Arcot, Madras, and even Bangalore—all these places are considerably above 100 miles nearer to the Sherwahrays than to the Neelgherrys—and the facility with which supplies are procured from Salem, must add greatly to the comfort of those going to them.

The Sherwahrays have been known to the European Residents at Salem, for some years past, and parties have very frequently gone to them for a few days at a time—but it is only recently that they have attracted particular attention—or that they have been thought of as a place of abode—during the last two months they have been visited by nearly twenty gentlemen and ladies—who all enjoyed the best possible health, and amongst their followers, in number about 300, only five cases of fever occurred—which appeared to have been brought on by exposure to the cold, night air, and sleeping on the damp ground, but amongst those, three had for years been subject to fever, and probably they would have had attack of it below.

Births.

On the 1st instant, the Lady of G. J. Morris, Esq. of the Civil Service, of a Daughter.

At Chowringhee, on the 31st ultimo, the Lady of JAMES JAMESON, Esq. of a Daughter.

On the 31st ultimo, Mrs. W. W. Beck, of a Daughter.

On the 29th ultimo, the Lady of THOMAS MEASURES, Esq. of a Son.

On the 29th ultimo, the Lady of LEWIS BERRY, Esq. of a Daughter.

At Pottiaghur, on the 23d of July, the Lady of ROBERT BLAKE, Esq. of a Daughter.

At Allyghar, on the 20th ultimo, the Lady of Lieutenant JOHN FENNER PATON, Garrison Engineer and Executive Officer, of a Daughter.

Deaths.

On the 1st instant, Captain D. J. Ross, aged 37 years.

On the 29th ultimo, of a lingering illness, DAVID THORNTON, aged 28 years, Son of Colonel Thornton, leaving a disconsolate sister and numerous friends to bewail his untimely end.

Bhopaul.

(Continued from the India Gazette of the 15th of July.)

Mr. HASTINGS, the first and perhaps the most able of our Governors General, was also the first who had the merit of perceiving that we must be all or nothing in this country. And although shackled by Mr. FRANCIS's party and ill-seconded by the then factions Governments of Madras and Bombay, steadily kept to the extended line of operations which he had planned. I do not here mean to defend our espousal of the party of Ragonath (Ragonath Rao) or the general conduct of the Bombay Presidency relative to that shameless procedure. The Constitution of the Mahratta Government was then imperfectly known, and the opportunities of interfering in the disputes and politics of the native powers so precious and eagerly sought after, that right and justice were obliged to yield to expediency and the policy of the moment. This actual state of our relations with the leading states of India at the close of the year 1779, was not calculated to give a weak and ignorant state like Bhopaul much confidence either in the faith or even stability of our power. Our recent bad faith to the Nawab of Broach, and our present espousal of the party of a murderer and usurper from selfish motives, spoke little for the morale of our actions. Hyder Alee had established a powerful Kingdom in the Peninsula, and disgusted with the Jesuitical faith and vacillating policy of the Madras Presidency, was threatening them with destruction, and in effect almost succeeded, a few months afterwards, in dictating peace at the gates of Fort St. George. Mahajee Sindiah who by great talents and an assumed moderation and humility had raised himself from comparative insignificance to be the first of the Mahratta Chiefs, had recently acquired a preponderating influence at Poonah, and taken the lead in opposing the British government and its tool Ragonath Rao: he was also indisputably master of Malwa and swayed its various and conflicting interests. At this time he also projected the extension and security of his power by the introduction of French Officers and disciplined Brigades into his army. In the present war against Ragonath Rao and the English, principle and popularity were for continuing the contest; his interest and expediency for peace. The establishment of the rights of the infant Madhoo Rao would have the probable result of placing his enemy Nanah Purnawees (Ballalje Junardun) at the head of affairs at Poonah, which, in his absence, was equivalent to the entire prostration of his interests and designs in the Dhankhan. He also foresaw that the present time was favorable to his designs on upper Hindostan and the Rajpoot Principalities in Marwar and Mewar,—the active prosecution and the favorable issue of the war, are therefore very creditable to Mahajee as a Mahratta, and not discreditable to him as a Soldier or Statesman.

The narration of the claims of Ragonath Rao to the Peishwahship or hereditary Ministry of the Mahratta Empire,—the events which led to, and succeeded his crimes and usurpation,—and the character of the support which he received from the British Government, are very imperfectly detailed and very partially sketched by Mr. Mill, the able and philosophical Historian of India, who appears to have consulted little more than the ex-parté documents and evidence of the Bombay Government. He does not attribute the murder of the young Peshwa, Narraim Rao, to his uncle, although such was never doubted by any European conversant in the modern History of India, and although the Mahrattas, high and low, are of the same opinion. He considers the second Madhoo Rao to have been of spurious origin, which is also at total variance with the belief of the Mahratta nation. The principal reason which has led him to this latter conclusion, appears to be the carrying the widow from "disinterested witnesses," (he means from Poonah) "to the retirement and secrecy of a Fort." Now it is evident that when Ragonath Rao was openly accused of the murder of her husband to pave his own way to the Peishwahship, withdrawing her to a place of safety would be the first step which would suggest itself to a sane mind as the most probable means of safety to herself and offspring. The Mahrattas or Hereditary Ministerial Chiefs of the state, (who are oddly enough called Moustashis by Mr. Mill, equivalent to confounding Mr. Vansittart with a Clerk of the Treasury, or the Lord of the "fundamental features" with a messenger of the Foreign Office) considered Ragonath Rao as the murderer of his Nephew, and the second Madhoo Rao as the legitimate tho' posthumous son of that nephew. In this belief they were joined by the whole Mahratta nation; and it appears extraordinary, that an able and sound reasoner like Mr. Mill should at this time of day, prefer the perverted facts, the limited information, and the false arguments, of the Bombay Government, to the moral proof given by this universal belief of the Mahrattas themselves. His authorities appear to have been little more than the Fifth Report and Forbes's Oriental Memoirs;—the latter a superficial work of no authority with people conversant in Indian affairs, and the former only a digest of the dispatches which passed between the Home Authorities and the Indian Government. In these documents, facts and rights were distorted or misrepresented. Any trouble which the Bombay Government might take

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in glossing over their own Machiavellianism was very unnecessary,—a mere waste of time, as the Court of Directors were in the humour to approve of the most political profligacy resulting from their connection with Raghunath Rao. In one of their dispatches to the Bombay Presidency, they write thus—“ * We approve, under every circumstance, of the keeping of all the territories and possessions ceded to the Company by the Treaty concluded with Ragobah,” (Raghunath Rao) that is to say, they intrigue dastily for, and accept thankfully of, grants of Territories from a man who had no right or title to them himself!

Although Detachments from the three Presidencies were then acting simultaneously against the Mahrattas, and that there was an apparent and real vigor and comprehensive measures, in the acts of the Supreme Government; still public opinion leaned strongly to the belief, that we were unequal to keep or benefit by any territories acquired against the will of the Mahrattas, and the bare apprehension of a confederacy between the Mahratta Chiefs, the Nizam and Hyder in 1780, would seem to have heartily frightened the Governments of that day. Such a combination of interests may be considered as very unnatural, and although Mr. HASTINGS in his defence assumes to himself infinite credit for breaking up and neutralizing this combination, yet calm reasoners of our day will incline to think, that from such various and jarring interests no unity of action could have been expected, and by consequence our ruin ought not to have been feared. But although our very existence could not with propriety be said to be threatened, the general aspect of affairs in central India would have naturally led the generality of Native Politicians to abstain from committing themselves by any marked assistance to the British Government. We accordingly find, that with the exception of the aid given to General GODDARD by the little States of Bhopal and Koorwey, his route to the Nerbuddah was a continued scene of opposition and hostility.

The first effect to be dreaded by Bhopal would seem to be the increased hatred of Sindiah and the Bhonsla, and such especially from the Nagpoor State, was the result. Mahajee Sindiah was shortly afterwards so intensely engaged in consolidating his newly acquired territories in Upper Hindooostan, and in Mewar and Marwar, as to withdraw his attention from minor interests in Malwa. Besides, that the Bhopal Minister Chotah Khan who succeeded his brother Cheleah Fowlad Khan, was a man of great talent and much political foresight, who courted Mahajee's favour by acts both of policy and courtesy. Among these the following is worthy of narration.

The ancient Rajpoot Principality of Ragnogbur was destroyed, and its Chief, and his son, the late celebrated Jye Singh, taken prisoners by Mahajee Sindiah in 1780. Sheer Singh, one of the Cadets of the family, immediately put himself at the head of the remaining relatives, and adherents of his Chieftain, and commenced an active and destructive warfare against the Mahrattas. His first care was to make the Principality useless to Mahajee, by burning all the villages, and forcing the cultivators to betake themselves to the neighbouring States, more especially to Bhopal. He then at the head of a small band of devoted Rajpoot Cavalry flew about Malwa, attacking, and putting to the sword every Mahratta detachment and Caffilah he met. The Brahmin Pandits were the particular objects of his cruelty and revenge;—he invariably cut off their noses and ears, and bade them go to Malajee Sindiah, and shew him what was to be expected from cutting off a Rajpoot Principality. Whilst Sheer Singh's name was “ a word of fear,” most hateful to Mahratta ears, the wife of Mahajee Sindiah chanced to be on her way from the Dhuukhan to join her husband in Hindooostan, accompanied by the wives and families of some of the Muha Rajah's Chief Officers. The Baee, like all the woman of her tribe, was not timid, but she knew that Sheer Singh was in the habit of successfully attacking large bodies of Mahrattas with his small Corps of well mounted and brave Rajpoots, and that he might be expected to make a desperate attempt at wreaking his vengeance on the family of Sindia, the hated Oppressor of his Chief and Clan. On approaching the Bhopal territories, she pressingly implored the aid and interposition of the Minister, Chotah Khan. Chotah Khan gallantly answered the call, appointed a detachment of troops to increase her escort, and wrote to Sheer Singh, enjoining him by all the ties which bound them together, to refrain from molesting the Baee.

Sheer Singh had prepared himself for the attack of the Baee's escort, but his obligations to the Minister were so many, and his respect for his character and regard of his advice so great, that he conceived himself bound to attend to his recommendation, although it restrained him from taking what he and his Rajpoot followers termed necessary and honourable vengeance.

The Baee was profuse in her gratitude to Chotah Khan,—never forgot this act of kindness, and mainly influenced Mahajee Sindiah in the

favourable line of policy which he pursued towards the state of Bhopal during the remainder of his reign. Such an event is very honourable to all concerned;—it is like an Oasis in the Desert,—a green spot in the barren waste of Indian history.

General GODDARD continued at Hoshungabad* during the rains, and was plentifully supplied with provisions and necessaries by the Bhopal Government.

Q

KAPPA.

(To be Continued.)

General Martin's Building,

To the Editor of the India Gazette.

Sir, Since writing to you, I have fallen in with an article in the ASIATIC JOURNAL of December 1816, headed “ Authentic Anecdotes of the Life of Major General Claude Martin.” Deeming some points therein to be of questionable nature, kindly permit me once more to encroach on the columns of your Paper, with a few remarks, rendered unavoidable after the account of Constantia furnished by me, and obligingly published by you.

In advertence to the structure above mentioned, it is asserted of the caves, that “ he (General Martin) generally lived in them during the hot season, and continued in them until the commencement of the rainy season, when the increase of the river obliged him to remove. He then ascended another story, to apartments fitted up in the form of a grotto; and when the further rise of the river brought its surface on a level with these, he proceeded up to the third story.” From this passage it would seem, that notwithstanding the distance of the house from the river, upwards of 100 feet, the two lower stories were subject to be filled with water on the rise of the river, a rise which certainly could not have been less than 16 feet above the surface of the ground; a rise unprecedented I suppose, in the annals of India, and which would have laid the whole town of Lucknow under water, presenting a scene more distressing than the late dreadful calamity at Burrifant.

In following paragraph it is said, that the General “ laid out a great sum of money in constructing a Gothic Castle, surrounded by a wide and deep ditch fortified on the outer side by stockades, and that within this Castle, he built a splendid Mausoleum in which he was interred.” Now, Sir, this Gothic Castle, with all its fortified appurtenances, existed, I apprehend, only in the imagination of the writer, for I fancy it can be nowhere be traced except in the ASIATIC JOURNAL. But as in other place it is said, that the General did not live to finish this Castle, I will not dispute its former existence. I shall however feel thankful to you, or to any of your Correspondents, who can refer me to any other work on India, wherein notice is taken of this, to me, imaginary Castle, which, from the assertion of the writer, that “ Martin was interred in it,” leads me to suppose is meant to be Constantia House, as in the latter he was without doubt buried. The inscription given in the ASIATIC JOURNAL, and said to be written by the deceased some months before his death, is as follows:—

“ Here lies Claude Martin. He was born at Lyons. A. D. 1732. He came to India a Private Soldier, and died a Major General.”

On comparing the above with the inscription given in my first letter, and which was taken by me verbatim from the tablet, your readers will perceive the difference.

These are the few inconsistencies that struck me most forcibly in perusing the “ Authentic Anecdotes.” I have thence thought it proper to make the foregoing brief observations; and as I could not, without invalidating my account of Constantia, pass unnoticed this in the ASIATIC JOURNAL, differing so materially with my own, you will, I hope, not attribute my remarks to any unworthy motive.

I am, Sir, your obedient Servant,

August 30, 1822.

AN INDIAN.

P. S. I perceive an error in the inscription on General Martin's tombstone, published in my letter last evening. The year of his birth is here given as 1735, it ought to have been 1735. The punctuation in the last paragraph is also incorrect; the semi-colon in the sixth line should have been placed after the word “ building,” instead of following the word “ former.”

Deaths:

At Chinsurah, on the 26th ultimo, Ross JENNINGS, Esq. aged 86 years.

At Cawnpore, on the 17th ultimo, Mr. JOHN WHELAN, Conductor of Ordnance.

* Hoshungabad, from Sultan Hoshung, one of the most celebrated of the Khiljis Sovereigns of Malwa.